

*Sporn Holding Plan*

# GENOCIDE

**750,000  
Serbs**

**60,000  
Jews**

# CROATIA

**1941 - 1945**

The famous Italian writer Curzio Malaparte in his book "**Kaputt**" reports on his visit to Ante Pavelic, the head of the Independent State of Croatia, whose official title was "Poglavnik":

". . . The Croatian people", said Ante Pavelic, "wish to be ruled with goodness and justice. And I am here to provide them."

While he spoke, I gazed at a wicker basket on the Poglavnik's desk. The lid was raised and the basket seemed to be filled with mussels, or shelled oysters—as they are occasionally displayed in the window of Fortnum and Nason in Piccadilly in London. Casertano looked at me and winked, "Would you like a nice oyster stew?"

"Are they Dalmatian oysters?" I asked the Poglavnik.

Ante Pavelic removed the lid from the basket and revealed the mussels, that slimy and jelly-like mass, and he said smiling, with that tired good-natured smile of his, "It is a present from my loyal **Ustashis**. Forty pounds of human eyes."

(Quoted from page 266 of "**Kaputt**" E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc., New York, 1946).

# INTRODUCTION

The greatest genocide during World War II, in proportion to a nation's population, took place, not in Nazi Germany but in the Nazi-created puppet state of Croatia. There, in the years 1941-1945, some 750,000 Serbs, 60,000 Jews and 26,000 Gypsies - men, women and children - perished in a gigantic holocaust. These are the figures used by most foreign authors, especially the Germans, who were in the best position to know. Hermann Neubacher, perhaps the most important of Hitler's troubleshooters in the Balkans, reports that although some of the perpetrators of the crime estimated the number of Serbs killed at one million, the more accurate figure is 750,000<sup>1</sup>. One of Hitler's generals, Lothar Rendulic, who was in the area where the crimes were committed, estimates that in the first year of the existence of the puppet state of Croatia at least a half million Orthodox Serbs were massacred, and that many others were killed in subsequent years.<sup>2</sup>

The magnitude and the bestial nature of these atrocities makes it difficult to believe that such a thing could have happened in an allegedly civilized part of the world. Yet even a book such as this can attempt to tell only a part of the story.

The reader will no doubt ask: Why did it happen? The author believes that the reader himself must answer that question. But a brief account of the past may be of assistance. Because the victims were for the most part Serbs, who belonged to the Serbian Orthodox Church, it seems desirable to indicate who the Serbs were, how they happened to live in these areas and what had been their relations with the other people in the same geographic region.

In the middle ages the Serbs had their own independent nation, occupying the area of what is now the southern part of Yugoslavia. After their defeat by the Turks at the Battle of Kosovo in 1389, they began moving northward, entering regions then under the nominal rule of Hungary, hoping to live to fight another day on behalf of Christianity and freedom. This Serbian emigration reached considerable proportions after the fall of the Serbian ruler, Djuradj Brankovich (1459) and after the fall of Bosnia (1463) to the Turks.

The Hungarian kings used the emigrant Serbs in the struggles to defend their borders from the Turks, because the Serbs, already at that time, were known as able and competent soldiers. After Hungary united with Austria (1526), the Austrian rulers created a military belt stretching from the Adriatic Sea in the West to the Carpathian Mountains in the East, known as Vojna Krajina (literary military zone or region).

This region was populated chiefly by Serbs. Most of the Croats, who were tenants of landed estates in this area, fled to Hungary, Austria, Italy, Bavaria or Croatia proper (Croatia had been absorbed in the twelfth century by Austria and Hungary). The Austrian rulers settled the depopulated

areas with Serbs, who had come, not as refugees, but as warriors. They were given land (they became free peasant owners), but they had to promise that a certain number of men had to be under arms constantly. All men between 18 and 60 had to do military service whenever they were called.

Thus, the Serbs came to empty, deserted property. And the Austrian authorities were glad to have them, because they did not come as ordinary refugees, seeking merely to save their necks, but as warriors willing to continue the fight against the infidel Turks, in the eternal hope that one day Turkey would be defeated and they could return to their own lands. But the Turkish occupation was to last some five hundred years. In the meantime, the Serbs became valuable and respected citizens, settled in their new homes, although they often had to pay a dear price for living on the frontier, exposed to periodic Turkish military onslaughts.

But the Serbs were also to face difficulties inside the Austrian and Hungarian kingdoms. To the north of them was Croatia proper, a strongly clerical land. Life was difficult there for anyone who was not a Roman Catholic. The Catholic bishops (from Zagreb and from Senj), with the help of Viennese Jesuits, sought constantly to convert the newly-arrived Serbs to Catholicism in the regions bordering on Croatia, or at least to get them to accept the Uniate rite. Many times those attempts were aided by military authorities using brute force, although the Austrian kings were officially and formally on the side of the Serbs.

In short, the Serbs in these regions were to be on the defensive for 350 years, trying to preserve their religion (Serbian Orthodox) and their national identity. Their right to own land and their right to work for the state were limited because they were not Catholics. Serbian priests were tortured and imprisoned because they refused to join the Uniates. These restrictions and persecutions have been described by Croatian and German (Austrian) historians. And they were admitted by the various official promises of rectification.

There was a considerable discrepancy between theory and practice. From time to time, the authorities promised autonomy and independence for the Orthodox Church. They even promised autonomy for Serbian civil authorities (e.g. Emperor Joseph of Hungary in 1796). And yet the military chaplain of Lika (Marko Mesic) could proclaim: "Be converted to Catholicism or get out!" Vienna could say one thing (how sincerely?), while local authorities could do another.

The Croats feared the progress that the Serbs were making in all fields: religion, economics, education and culture. They were determined to do something about it. In the eighteenth century, for example, they instructed the Croatian representatives in the Hungarian parliament to seek the enactment of laws and regulations which would

make life impossible for the Serbian people and for the Orthodox Church. Among the measures proposed were the following: to prevent the organization of Serbian high schools (the Croats did not yet have elementary schools in Croatian), to prevent the building of Orthodox Churches, to take away all property of Serbian monasteries, to prevent the collection of contributions for monasteries, to turn the Orthodox clergy over to the courts as ordinary trash, and to do away with the schism.

Maria Theresa, however, rejected these demands because Serbian military power was needed in the struggle against the Turks.

In the nineteenth century, this hatred for the Serbs, heretofore largely confined to the Catholic priesthood, was transferred to the Croatian people. To this end, Ante Starcevic whom the Croats called the father of his country, contributed the most. He is the first Croatian racist, putting forth the slogan: "The Serbs are a breed fit only for the slaughter house," meaning that the Serbs should be hung on willow trees.

Although there was a split among Starcevic's followers, he succeeded in forming a political movement whose chief reason for existence was hatred of the Serbs. After his death, Starcevic was succeeded by Joseph Frank, who entered into close collaboration with the Croatian clericals to form a Frankist Party, which was under the direct influence of Vienna. To this extremist group belonged Ante Pavelich, who in 1941 was to arrive from Italy and with the aid of Fascist and Nazi power to become head of the Axis puppet state of Croatia, and soon thereafter the principal butcher of the Serbs. But this is getting ahead of the story.

In 1918, the Frankist Party, which had in the past relied on Vienna for support, went out of existence. With the defeat of Austro-Hungary, Serbia and Montenegro joined with Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia, Herzegovina and other regions formerly under Austro-Hungarian rule was no place for a Frankist Party.

While the experience of a common nationhood for the Serbs and the Croats was in many ways a stormy one, and certainly beyond the possibility of adequate description here, two elemental points need to be made. First of all, in the political sphere, considerable progress was made in Serb-Croat relations prior to 1941. Secondly, in the religious sphere, the Roman Catholic Church enjoyed full freedom to pursue its activities and to prosper. These two points need further brief elaboration.

Yugoslavia became a political democracy. But Serbia, because of her previous existence as a nation (and consequently her greater political experience) and because the Serbs were more numerous than all of the other groups combined, had a dominant voice in the new nation's political affairs. This led to some dissatisfaction, and subsequently to more extreme difficulties, resulting in the establishment of a dictatorship in 1929. In 1931, the dictatorship was modified

to a degree, with minor modifications in the late thirties. In 1939, an agreement (Sporazum) was concluded between the government in Belgrade and the representatives of the Croatian Peasant party, abandoning the principle of a centralist state.

Under the Sporazum Croatia was granted extensive political and economic autonomy, with her own government and her own assembly. The central government still controlled foreign affairs and defense. Croatia was to have autonomy in internal administration, justice, public education, agriculture, forestry, mining, construction, finance, health and social policy. Her territory was enlarged, taking in over a million Serbs (under the Nazis it was to be enlarged still further). The head of the principal political party in Croatia (Croatian Peasant Party), Dr. Vlatko Machek, became vice-president of the central government. But the fanatics in Croatia could be satisfied with nothing short of the destruction of the Yugoslav state.

Parenthetically, it should be added that the Sporazum was received with dissatisfaction in Serbia. Serbs for the most part felt that the Croats, a minority group, had been given rights which even the Serbs did not enjoy. The government was aware of this hostility and hence never submitted the Sporazum to the Parliament for ratification.

On the religious front, the Roman Catholic Church had full freedom and equality from the beginning. Countless witnesses can testify to this fact, but it might be interesting to refer to one or two Catholic sources. A Croatian Catholic priest, Vjekoslav Wagner, spoke of the expansion of Catholicism in Serbia, adding that "such progress could be attained only in a country where religious tolerance and equality were living facts."<sup>3</sup> More recently, Belgian Catholics have reported how before the Second World War, the Catholic press (dailies, weeklies and monthlies) flourished in Yugoslavia, how Catholic schools, colleges and other religious centers functioned, how Catholic hospitals were built and Catholic organizations multiplied.<sup>4</sup> Dr. Anton Korosec, cleric and Slovene Catholic leader, has admitted that "even without the Concordat the Catholic Church enjoyed full freedom of action."<sup>5</sup>

There are ample statistics on the progress of the Catholic Church in Yugoslavia between the two world wars, and any one really interested in checking them can easily do so.

Nevertheless, extremist clerical elements in Croatia were dissatisfied living in a country where the Catholics were in a minority. Perhaps they feared the future. To allay these fears, Belgrade governments were willing to expose themselves to hostility in Serbia and in other Serbian Orthodox regions by entering into a Concordat with the Vatican, which would formalize relations between the Church and the state. Belgrade hoped that this would placate Croatian Catholic hostility toward the state and the government.

The Concordat was opposed in Serbia because it granted



privileges and guarantees to the Catholic Church which the Orthodox themselves did not enjoy. For example, the state was obligated to pay the Catholic Church for properties confiscated by the Austrian state (1780-1790), something that even Catholic Austria had refused to do. Moreover, the state was to pay for land taken by agrarian reform measures, but only to the Catholic Church and not the others.

That the disputed Concordat gave the Catholic Church a privileged position was recognized by Archbishop Bauer of Zagreb and his vicar, Stepinac, in a declaration on March 31, 1936: "The Catholic Church is not at all opposed to the Serbian Orthodox Church also receiving all that it perhaps does not now have and which is guaranteed to the Catholic Church by the Concordat."<sup>6</sup>

Parenthetically, it might be added that many Croatian leaders, including the head of the Croatian Peasant Party, Stjepan Radich, were not in favor of the Concordat. They feared the entrenchment of clericalism in Croatia, and believed that the Concordat would facilitate it.

But the Croatian extremists were interested only in separatism; they did not want a common state. In 1929, Ante Pavelich fled to Italy and there resurrected the Frankist Party in the form of a terrorist organization, called the Ustashi. He became the leader of the Croatian extremist separatist movement. He received considerable help from Mussolini million liras and a promise of liberal sums to come.<sup>7</sup> He also received assistance from the Horthy regime in Hungary.

The members of Pavelich's organization were recruited from the most viciously anti-Serb and the most depraved and sadistic elements in Croatia. They trained for and engaged

in terrorist activities. The Ustashi sent assassins and terrorists to Yugoslavia, who blew up bridges, placed bombs in public places, and contributed to the death and injury of many innocent victims. The Ustashi also killed King Alexander of Yugoslavia and the French Foreign Minister, Louis Barthou, on October 9, 1934 in Marseilles, France.

When Hitler and Mussolini destroyed Yugoslavia in April 1941, Pavelich and his Ustashi were brought in to rule an enlarged puppet state of Croatia. To tell what they did to the Serbian population and Jews under their jurisdiction is the task of this book. It is the author's hope that these few pages will enable the reader to view the genocide in Croatia in some historical perspective. To see that it was not the result of a momentarily disagreement with the Serbs or the result of a revolution. Rather it came as the consequence of a carefully prepared ideology which began in the second half of the nineteenth century and culminated in Pavelich's Ustashi.

<sup>1</sup> "Sonder-Auftrag Suedost 1940-1945: Bericht eines fliegenden Diplomaten" (Goettingen-Berlin-Frankfurt, 1956), pp. 31-32.

<sup>2</sup> "Gekaempft Gesigt Geschlagen" (Heidelberg, 1952), pp. 161-62.

<sup>3</sup> "Katolicizam u Srbiji" (Catholicism in Serbia), Almanah Jugoslovenske Katolicke akademije (1929), p. 3.

<sup>4</sup> "Une Eglise du silence - Catholiques en Yougoslavie" (Brussels, 1954), pp. 144, 149.

<sup>5</sup> "Hrvatska Zora" (Munich), September 1, 1954.

<sup>6</sup> Sima Simic, "Vatikan protiv Jugoslavije" (The Vatican Against Yugoslavia), (Titograd, 1958), pp. 16-17, and Viktor Novak, "Magnum Crimen" (Zagreb, 1948), p. 440.

<sup>7</sup> Hevre Lauriere, "Assassins au Nom de Dieu" (Murderers In The Name Of God) (Paris, 1959), p. 17.

(Excerpts from the book "Genocide In Satellite Croatia" by French author Edmond Paris.

## Who Is A War Criminal ?

According to the United Nations (U. N. Pub., Sale No. 1949, B. 7, pp. 89-92) all those persons who have committed one of the following offenses shall be regarded as war criminals:

1) **CRIMES AGAINST PEACE**, viz., the planning, preparation, initiation, respectively conduct of a war of aggression, or a war violating international treaties, agreements or guarantees, as well as participation in a joint plan or conspiracy for the carrying out of any of the above acts;

2) **WAR CRIMES**, viz., violation of the laws respectively usages of war. Such violations shall include, but shall not be restricted to, the following acts: murder, maltreatment or deportation to slave labor camps, or for any other purpose, of the civilian population of occupied territories, murder or maltreatment of prisoners

of war or moribund persons, the killing of hostages, the plunder of public or private property, the deliberate destruction of towns and villages, or devastation which cannot be justified with military needs.

3) **CRIMES AGAINST MANKIND**, viz., murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation and other inhuman acts against any civilian population before or during war, as well as political, racial or religious persecutions perpetrated in connection with any crime shall represent a violation of the domestic legislation of the country in which crimes were committed, whether or not the person is still in that country or in another country.

The leaders, organizers, instigators respectively accomplices who participated in the planning or implementation of a joint plan respectively conspiracy with the aim of committing any of the above crimes shall be liable for all acts committed by anyone in the carrying out of such a plan.

## Fall of Yugoslavia

The ascent of Adolf Hitler in Germany left many European countries, including Yugoslavia, apprehensive and alarmed. Still fresh with memories of World War I, they dreaded yet another confrontation with German military might.

King Alexander of Yugoslavia, as a farsighted politician, saw his country's predicament. Its only chance for survival in a Nazi-dominated Europe lay in forming close alliances with western democracies. In October of 1934, the King went to France to urge a common front against Germany and propose a mutual defense treaty.

He never got as far as Paris. He was assassinated in Marseilles, together with French Foreign Secretary Barthou, also a staunch anti-Nazi. The murder was the work of Croatian fascists, called Ustashi, who were supported by Horthy's Hungary and Mussolini's Italy.

King Alexander's death did not precipitate the collapse of Yugoslavia, as the assassins had intended, but instead served to eliminate a strong political unifying force.

Yugoslavia's remaining years of statehood were marred by political instability. The government proved unable to cope with the escalating subversion of the Croatian separatists. Myriad minorities contributed to the unrest, including the Communists, who had their own reasons.

At the 1939 conference in Munich, France and England capitulated to Hitler's demands and sacrificed Czechoslovakia. A treaty with Stalin removed the last obstacle to Hitler's grand scheme of starting a world war.

France's surrender and the siege of England left Yugoslavia virtually defenseless and surrounded by hostile countries on all sides, except for Greece.

The Nazi army's advance gave great encouragement to anti-Yugoslavian forces. Croatia demanded and received autonomy. German, Hungarian, Albanian, Bulgarian and Italian minorities clamored for a revision of the Versailles Treaty and adjustment of Yugoslavian borders. Communists contributed to the general turmoil.

Desperate to avoid a war they had no chance of winning, the Yugoslavians sought a compromise with the Germans. In March of 1941, the two countries secretly negotiated a treaty which ostensibly guaranteed Yugoslavia's neutrality and independence while providing for passage of Nazi troops through the country.

The treaty took many by surprise and pleased very few. The Serbians felt especially humiliated. Their frustration and anger exploded into mass protest. Demonstrators demanded abrogation of the treaty, crying, "Better war than the pact", and "Better death than slavery".

Riding on the crest of popular sentiment, a group of Serbian officers in the Yugoslavian army, led by General Dusan Simovich, staged a bloodless coup. A new government was formed and Peter, the young son of King Alexander, was proclaimed its king.

"Yugoslavia has found its soul!" announced a jubilant Churchill.

The Belgrade coup was hailed with approbation in the West, but Hitler took it as a personal insult and flew into a rage. He decided to inflict heavy punishment on the Serbians.

The coup and Hitler's reaction to it ultimately proved catastrophic to both the Serbians and the Nazis. Hitler was forced to postpone his invasion of the Soviet Union for six weeks, a fatal delay according to military experts, because the brutal Russian winter stopped the German army just short of Moscow and Leningrad. The Nazis never regained their momentum. More than one million Serbian lives were lost in the war. After enduring German occupation Serbia fell to totalitarian rule under the Communists.

On April 6, 1941, German army attacked Yugoslavia from several directions, while the German air force bombed Belgrade and other Serbian cities mercilessly.

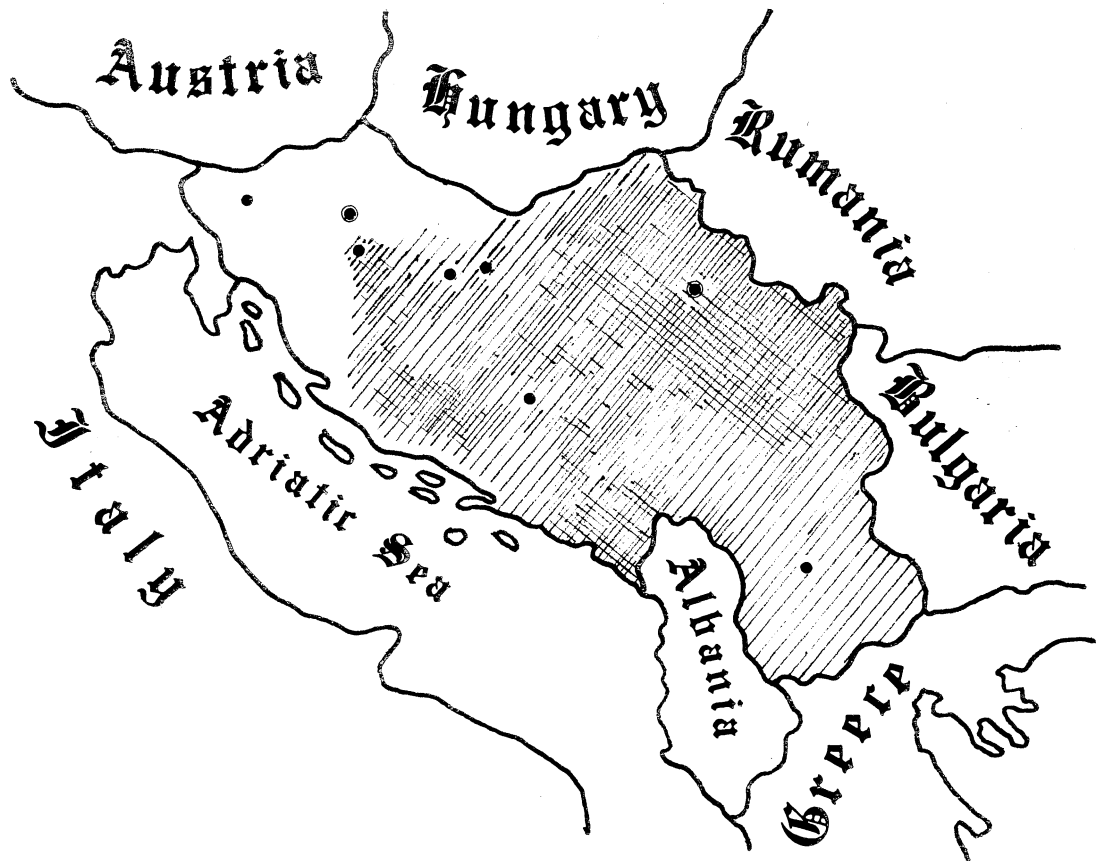
Many members of minority groups sided with the enemy. The army's Croatian contingent refused to fight. After two weeks the Yugoslavians surrendered, sending the king and other government officials fleeing into exile.

Yugoslavia was partitioned, and the largest portion, roughly one half of the country was proclaimed an independent state by the Croats. Whole provinces of Yugoslavian territory were swallowed by its neighbors, Austria, Italy, Hungary, Albania and Bulgaria. Only a small fraction was left to Serbia, which fell to the Germans.

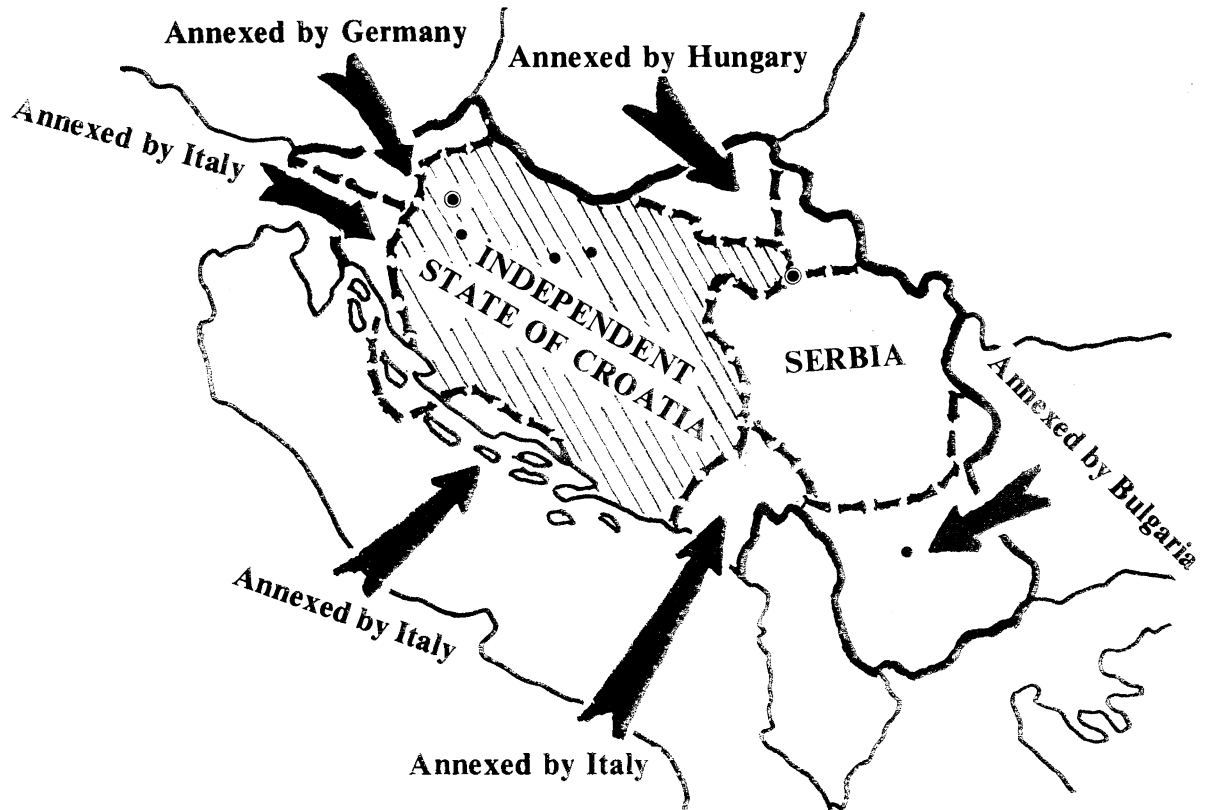
The newly-created Croatian state was made up of nearly half non-Croats, Serbians, Jews and Gypsies, who were declared extra-legal citizens. Within four years, Croatian Fascists had exterminated some one million of these "citizens".

This book tells the story of **Genocide in Croatia**.

## Serbians in Yugoslavia



## Partitioning of Yugoslavia in 1941



# FOREWORD

One of the most disastrous results of the First World War was the disintegration of that liberal and tolerant spirit which civilized nations of the twentieth century were supposed to have acquired. The great conflict completely destroyed, along with other catastrophic consequences, any such hope. Exaggerated nationalism, fascism and communism, as well as political and religious fanaticism, paved the way for the Second World War, thus bringing society down to a lower level of moral civilization, characterized by an incredible intolerance which was thought to have vanished with the Middle Ages.

In "Mein Kampf", Hitler stressed his favorite theme of pan-Germanism, and succeeded in swaying public opinion by blinding it with his pseudo-scientific arguments, based on delirious ethnology of the pretended superiority of the German race. Presumably this gave them a natural right to rule over Europe, if not over the entire world, while other nations, above all the Slavs, must work for their overlords just as the slaves had done in time gone by. As for the Jews, they could never be assimilated and were therefore doomed to death.

The great powers were incredibly deaf to these insane ideas. As they grew, they developed their denouement until they eventually took seed in foreign countries, notably in Croatia, where a similar doctrine, though on a smaller scale, had flourished eighty years earlier under Ante Starcevic, a Croatian politician who might be considered the father of racism.

This book was written in order to record the time and place the frightful ravages caused by such an extreme ideology, during the years 1941-1945, in the satellite state of Croatia under the government of Croatian fascists, known as the Ustashi, supported by the Axis powers, as well as by the Croatian Catholic hierarchy, with the knowledge of the Vatican.

In order to justify his policy of extermination, the Sultan Abdul Hamid, was known to say: "The way to get rid of the Armenian question is to get rid of the Armenians."

This same maxim was adopted by the Croatian nationalists and clericals concerning the Serbian and Jewish question in Croatia. According to the statutes of the Ustashi organization, "the name Ustashi was to be given to those who, in pre-war Yugoslavia, swore that by the destruction of the Yugoslav State he (they) helped in the extermination of Serbianism and the Orthodox Church." (Nova Hrvatska, May 4, 1941).

The collusion of the Croatian fascist government (or the Ustashi), and the Croatian Catholic hierarchy seems to have been inspired, under these tragic circumstances, by an anachronistic fanaticism.

It was with reason that the Serbian Orthodox Bishop, Dr. Nikolay Velimirovich, so well known to the Anglo-Saxon

world, compared what happened in Croatia, on such a large scale, with the darkest days of the Middle Ages. In an article published in 1954 by the ecclesiastical review "Svecanik", the Bishop wrote:

"The Spanish Inquisition is noted for its atrocities. The head inquisitor, named by the Pope, was the Dominican Monk Thoman de Torquemada, who is remembered with such sinister bitterness. During the eighteen year period of his mandate, 10,220 persons were burnt at the stake while 114,401 (according to the historian Motley) perished from hunger and torture in their prisons, which meant 125,000 people within a period of eighteen years.

"This record is frightful enough, but the inquisition of the Serbian Orthodox was much more terrible, for 750,000 Serbs were killed in just four years."

It would be difficult to find a parallel of such ferocious persecution in all history. Even the Duke of Albe, that sinister representative of the Spanish King (Philippe II), to the Low Countries, seemed quite moderate in comparison, having tortured and killed some 18,000 Protestants within six years.

In France, the massacre of St. Bartholomew on August 24, 1572, so justifiably stigmatized by the historians, resulted in only 100,000 victims.

In order to re-establish a truthful record concerning this tragedy, with its causes and the roles played by those who never hesitated to profit by this expansion of religious and national imperialism, while defying all humanity, I have undertaken the gathering of numerous testimonies printed by the Croatian and Catholic press during those tragic times. Here also are records of Yugoslav and foreign documents which appeared after the war, and testimonies, published in authentic sources, from some of the persecuted who escaped the inferno.

Unfortunately, I have been obliged to choose only a limited number of these significant texts which are numerous enough to fill an entire library.

But these selected testimonies will amply suffice as a record of actual events, and thus serve in throwing light upon those responsible for this drama.

It is difficult for the world to believe that a whole people could be doomed to extermination by a government and a religious hierarchy of the twentieth century, just because it happened to belong to another ethnic and racial group and which had inherited the Christianity of Byzantium rather than that of Rome.

May I add that far from desiring to stir up hard feelings, I have been motivated by the desire to divulge the truth concerning the frightful tragedy that took place, and to show what a shameful racial and religious recession has resulted from such fanaticism. May the disaster of the recent past serve as a lesson for future generations !

Edmond Paris

## Independent State of Croatia

# BIRTH OF A MONSTER IN THE 20th CENTURY

The so-called Independent State of Croatia was proclaimed on April 10, 1941. Pavelich arrived with the German and Italian troops to Zagreb from Italy escorted by 200 uniformed, well armed, rigorously disciplined, ruthless band of terrorists from the Ustashi training camps. Their background had been one of blackmail, murder, assassination. Their financial and moral support came from Hitler and Mussolini as well as some religious sources. Their first step to establish their dictatorship.

With the generous assistance of their teacher - Hitler and Mussolini, the new rulers in Zagreb set up local branches throughout the territory whose main objective was a systematic extermination of all non-Catholic elements through murder, torture, pillage, and wholesale massacre. Their ranks of loyal followers were swelled quickly by the youth, anti-royalist Croatian chauvinists, fanatics, criminals and even many members of the clergy - all dedicated - for a "Greater Croatia", an abortive conception originated by Dr. Ante Starcevic in the last century.

So tyrannical was their rule that many innocent people perished without quite understanding their "crime". Adding to the confusion and bewilderment of the many peasants was the appeal from their leaders both political and religious, to support and defend this new "Independent State of Croatia". Some looked to Dr. Vlatko Macek, president of the Croatian Peasant Party, but he incited his followers by issuing a proclamation read over Radio Zagreb and printed in the newspapers in which he appealed for support of the Ustashi. His proclamation said:

**"People of Croatia! Colonel Slavko Kvaternik, the leader of the National movement in the country, has today proclaimed the free and independent State of Croatia.**

**"I appeal to the whole Croatian people to submit to the new Government; I appeal to all the members of the Croatian Peasant Party who hold positions in the**

**Government, to collaborate sincerely with the new Government."**  
*(Hrvatski Narod, April 10, 1941)*

An unhearded, feverishly jubilant, campaign of praise broke into all the newspapers of the new USTASKA "Independent State of Croatia," including religious publications and Radio Zagreb. One of the leaders of the Catholic organization called the Crusaders, wrote in NEDELJA, April 27, 1941, the following praise:

**"God, who directs the destiny of nations and controls the hearts of Kings, has given us ANTE PAVELIC and moved the leader of a friendly and allied people, ADOLF HITLER, to use his victorious troops to disperse our oppressors and enable us to create an INDEPENDENT STATE OF CROATIA. Glory be to God, our gratitude to ADOLF HITLER, and INFINITE LOYALTY TO OUR POG-LAVNIK, ANTE PAVELIC."**

Some people turned to their churches but a pastoral letter issued on April 28, 1941 appealed to all the Croatian clergy to support and defend the young "Independent State of Croatia."

And in Sarajevo, the following appeared in the KATOLICKI LIST NO. 1941, (official organ of the Archbishop of Sarajevo—the escaped Archbishop Dr. Ivan Sarić, USTAŠE since 1934, now living in Spain, one of Artuković's ardent supporters):

**"Until now, God spoke through papal encyclicals. And? They closed their ears . . . Now God has decided to use other methods. He will prepare missions. European missions. World missions. They will be upheld, not by priests, but by army commanders, LED BY HITLER. The sermons will be heard, with the help of cannons, machine guns, tanks, and bombers."**

**Fuehrer, or Poglavnik of the Croatians Ante Pavelich singing the Declaration.**



# FANATICAL USTASHI CUT-THROATS GRIP PEOPLE

ZAGREB, YUGOSLAVIA—  
(JUNE 6, 1941)

"GOD and the USTASHI—GOD and the CROATIANS march together through history. From the first day of its existence the USTASHI movement has been fighting for the victory of GOD'S principles, for the victory of justice, freedom, and truth.

"Our Holy Saviour will help us in the future as he has done until now, that is why the new Ustashi's Croatia will be God's, ours, and no one else's."

Thus, it was easy to carry out a re-organization of USTAŠE throughout the New State. Immediately set up were the local branches known as Stožer, Logor, Tabor, and Zbir. The over-all structure which exercised absolute control over the whole population, was known as the USTAŠKA NADZORNA SLUŽBA (USTASHKA SUPERVISORY SERVICE). This USTAŠE Gestapo, composed of twelve different types of police services were all subordinated to the office of the MINISTER OF INTERIOR.

- 1—USTASA POLICE
- 2—INTELLIGENCE SERVICE
- 3—DEFENSE POLICE
- 4—SECURITY SERVICE
- 5—COUNTY POLICE
- 6—GENDARMERIE
- 7—SECURITY POLICE OF THE  
POGLAVNIK (BODY-  
GUARDS)
- 8—POLICE GUARD
- 9—MILITARY POLICE
- 10—SUPREME OFFICE FOR  
PUBLIC ORDER AND  
SECURITY
- 11—INDUSTRIAL POLICE
- 12—DEFENSE SQUADS

SITTING AT THE HEAD, AS MINISTER OF INTERIOR, DURING THE PERIOD OF THE LARGEST MASSACRES, APRIL, 1941 TO OCTOBER, 1942 WAS ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC.

Among the first orders issued by MINISTER OF INTERIOR, ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC, appeared on signs posted in parks, public transportation, vehicles and restaurants:

**"ENTRY FORBIDDEN TO ALL  
SERBS, JEWS, GYPSIES and  
DOGS!"**

Then came the OGLAS (public notice) issued by the Artuković MINISTRY OF INTERIOR:

**"All Serbs and Jews residing in  
Zagreb, the Capital of Croatia,  
must leave town within 12 hours.  
Any citizen found to have given  
a Serb or Jew shelter will be im-  
mediately executed on the spot."**

When Artuković began losing some of his henchmen as a result of citizen's reaction, the MINISTER OF INTERIOR displayed this OGLAS (public notice):

**"In case of attack against the  
USTASHI as a reprisal without  
any court procedure, 10 persons  
to be chosen by the police, will  
be killed."**

Then came the kangaroo courts, every judge a sworn USTAŠA. All persons appearing before these judges were condemned without ANY EXAMINATION OF CHARGES on the basis of COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY. These courts could pronounce ONLY DEATH SENTENCES, AGAINST WHICH NO APPEAL WAS PERMITTED.

Special legislation was passed against anyone who refused to accept the existence of the NEW CROATIA, who obstructed or protested the actions of the police organizations to arrest, deport, torture, or kill. The MINISTER OF INTERIOR, ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC quickly established and put into operation over twenty concentration camps, headed by his most trusted cut-throats. His collection of police

organizations, could at will, chose and send "any undesirable persons dangerous to public order" to be detained, tortured, or slaughtered, according to the Minister of Interior's desires. Later Artukovic even entrusted some of these powers to his cut-throats whom he then decorated for their 'heroic' deeds.

Within the briefest period of time, PAVELIC-ARTUKOVIC and their USTAŠE had become the arbiters of the freedom, the life, and death of every man, woman, and child in the new "Independent State of Croatia."

Mesmerized with the insanity that permeated the atmosphere, Pavelic, Artukovic and the USTAŠE'S goal was summed up by their Minister of Justice, Dr. Milovan Zanic, who said in Nova Gradiska:

**"This State, our country is ONLY  
FOR CROATIANS, and NOT FOR  
ANYONE ELSE. There are no  
ways and means which we Croa-  
tians will not use to make our  
country truly ours and to clean it  
of ALL JEWS AND ORTHODOX  
SERBS. ALL THOSE WHO CAME  
TO OUR COUNTRY 300 YEARS  
AGO MUST DISAPPEAR. WE DO  
NOT HIDE THIS OUR INTEN-  
TION."**

This was voiced by all USTAŠE heads of the new "Independent State of Croatia," Minister of Education and Cults, Dr. Mile Budak, and Dr. Mirko Puk, Minister of Justice and Religion unhesitatingly declared that the NEW CROATIA would get rid of all SERBS and UNDESIRABLES in its midst "IN ORDER TO BECOME 100 PERCENT CATHOLIC WITHIN TEN YEARS."

Thus the new plan was blown into its full meaning.

(Continued on next page)

## Ustashi used Catholic press as instrument in playing prominent role in propagating Nazi-Fascist ideas in Croatia

Under the cloak of religious principles, the press had great praise for Nazism and Hitler's "New Order." It deceived the people by portraying for them the "beauties," "success," and "justice" of the fascist regimes. *IT ATTACKED ALL CITIZENS WHO OPPOSED THESE FASCIST IDEAS and LABELLED EVERY PERSON, WHETHER LIBERAL or CONSERVATIVE WHO DID NOT APPROVE OF THESE FASCIST PRINCIPLES AS "COMMUNISTS."*

At the same time this press attacked the Western Powers, especially the UNITED STATES, GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE, categorizing them as countries of "decayed" democracy, branded English hegemony and "Jewish capitalist plutocracy." *"GERMANY and CROATIANS HAVE THE SAME ENEMIES,"* even going so far as to support the race theory which a priest, (Kerubin Šegvić, 1931), founded that Croats were not of Slav descent at all, but Gothic-Ger-

man. This played an important part in disseminating fascist ideas among the Croatian people because it helped to incite Croat hatred against the Yugoslav State, the Serbs, and other Slavs.

Then while the slaughter of the Jews was at its height in the "Independent State of Croatia," an article appeared in Zagreb, on May 25, 1941 in KATOLICKI TJEDNIK, entitled "WHY ARE THE JEWS BEING PERSECUTED?" Priest Franjo Kralik said:

**"In order to maintain a correct point of view in evaluating the Jewish movement in the world, it is necessary to keep in mind a number of important facts. The Jews, who pushed Europe and the entire world into a disaster—a world disaster, moral, cultural and economic—developed an appetite which nothing less than the world as a whole could satisfy . . .**

**"And they invented them and directed this liberal world movement of the workers—they, the MOST CRUEL AND SOULESS OF MEN, THE MOST AWFUL CAPITALISTS, THE JEWS.**

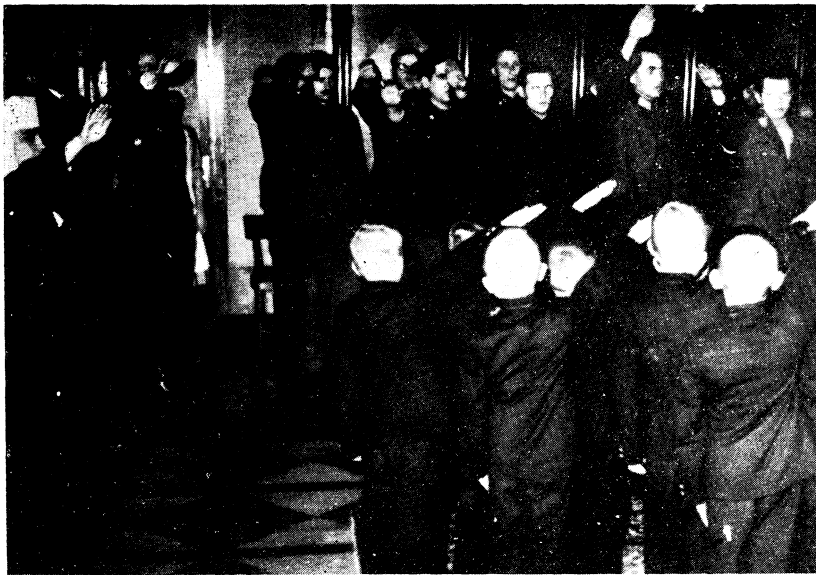
**"And did the Socialists and Communists not begin to defend them and praise these Jews who are the GREATEST CRIMINALS IN THE WORLD? LOVE HAS ITS LIMITS! The Almighty and All-wise God is behind THIS MOVEMENT FOR FREEING THE WORLD FROM THE JEWS.**

To add to the frenzied hatreds, madness, and the crazed killers came the "CALL TO BLOOD" (USTASHA slogan) era.



First on right - Croatian Poglavnik (fuehrer) Ante Pavelich receiving Fascist dignitaries





The policy of Pavelić-Artuković and the USTAŠE was reflected in these statements.

The USTAŠA Minister of Public Education and Creeds, Dr. Mile Budak said in a public meeting in Gospić, on July 22, 1941:

**"We shall kill one part of the Serbs, we shall transport another, and the rest of them will be FORCED to embrace the Roman Catholic religion. This last part will be absorbed by the Croatian elements."**

Father Anton Djurić, one of the most fanatical missionaries for conver-

*(Continued from preceding page)*

Franciscan, Božidar Brale of Sarajevo took part in liquidating Serbs with gun in hand, loudly postulating:

**"Liquidation of Serbs without compromise."**

Canon Ivan Mikan in Ogulin on April 13, 1941, overjoyed with the return of ANTE PAVELIC, shouted:

**"There will be purges. There will be purges. The Dogs (Serbs) will be driven across the Drina." (Ref. Drina River)**



sions kept a diary of his activities as an USTAŠA functionary:

**"... plundering and burning village of Segestin and murdering 150 Serbs today and arresting 117 people from the village of Gorička sending them to Kostajnica concentration camp for extermination."**

Father Djurić, personally mutilated and killed Serbs from Bosanska Kostajnica. In his speeches he emphasized the three ways out for the Serbs:

- "1. To accept the Catholic Faith**
- 2. To move out**
- 3. To be cleansed with the mental broom."**



Many members of the clergy were appointed by the Pavelić-Artuković USTAŠE to local and provincial administrative posts in the newly created USTASA'S "Independent State of Croatia," some as members of the USTAŠE and others as members of The Crusaders.

From the very first days some of them even participated, led, or incited parishioners to follow the USTAŠE example to commit heinous crimes against all those who were NON-CATHOLIC or opposed to the USTAŠE movement. Others held posts in CONCENTRATION CAMPS. The "Call to Blood" rang from pulpit to pulpit. During one of his sermons, Father Srećko Perić of Gorica Monastery near Livno said:

**"Kill all Serbs. First of all kill my sister, who is married to a Serb, when you finish this work, come here to the church and I will confess you and free you from sin."**

When Father Božo Šimleša (Chief in the district of Livno), who personally organized USTAŠE militia and obtained arms for them, was told that all the Serbian males had been slaughtered, he called a meeting in the village on July 27, 1941 and shouted:

**"The women and children are to be killed immediately. Do not wait for night, for twenty-four hours have already passed since our chief issued his orders that NOT A SINGLE SERB MUST BE LEFT ALIVE."**

One of the heads in the Ministry of Cults, Monsignor Dionizije Jurić, and personal confessor of ANTE PAVELIĆ, said:

**"Any Serb or Jew who refuses to become Catholic SHOULD BE CONDEMNED TO DEATH because today IT IS NO LONGER A SIN TO KILL A CHILD OF SEVEN, SHOULD SUCH A CHILD BE OPPOSED TO OUR MOVEMENT OF THE USTASHI!"**

*(Continued on next page)*

## USTASHI'S "CALL TO BLOOD" and "PROPAGATION of FAITH"

One of the crazed priests, Fr. Ivan Raguz had no inhibitions, repeatedly urged the killing of all Serbs, including children so that "not even the seeds of the beasts are left."

1941: Andrija Artukovic gave promotions and decorations to his USTASHI who carried out this order of his:

**"Kill all Serbs and Jews including children so that not even the seeds of the beasts are left."**

Artukovic's USTASHI took pictures following their 'heroic deeds' bayonetting the "seeds of the beasts."





Canon Ivan Mikan of Ogulin who shouted in public: "There will be purges," charged each Serb 180 dinars for forced conversions to Catholicism. In the village of Jasenak he collected 80,000 dinars (\$1,600.00).

Father Ambrozije Novak, guardian of the Capucine monastery in Varazdin, in 1941, went to the village of Mostanica, accompanied by USTASE and ordered the Serbian people to assemble, telling them:

**"You Serbs are condemned to death and you can only escape that sentence by accepting Catholicism."**



At a regular session of the USTASE Croatian State Assembly, held in Zagreb, February 25, 1942, USTASA's Dr. MIRKO PUK, Minister of JUSTICE and RELIGION, said:

**"... I shall also make reference to the so-called Serbian Orthodox Church In this regard I must emphatically state that our Independent State of Croatia cannot and will not recognize the Serbian Orthodox Church."**

#### **AND THE 'HOLY' NIGHTMARE CONTINUED**

When so many mass killings took place that the Adriatic Sea around the city of Pag turned red from its beautiful ink-blue color, and the countless bodies buried in mass graves, others

left to rot, when whole villages no longer appeared—houses burned, many of them with the peasants inside of them, when Dr. Katičić, Chairman of the Red Cross, shocked by the mass murders at Jasenovac, threatened to denounce to the world these unbelievable atrocities committed by Pavelić-Artuković's USTASE against helpless victims, (Katičić was interned at Stara Gradiska concentration camp for this threat, when murder was not considered a crime but a duty, especially a mass murder, these madmen continued on a ruthless path.



# Ustashi criminals murdering innocent people

BEFORE:

Peasant had to dig his own grave. Sadistic USTASHI show knife with which they will kill him.



AFTER:

Fait accompli.





"We shall kill  
one part of the  
Serbs, we shall  
transport another,  
and the rest of  
them will be forced  
to embrace the  
Roman Catholic  
religion"

Croatian Minister  
of Public Education  
and Creeds,  
Dr. Mile Budak

BEFORE—note  
smile on sadistic  
USTASHA with ax!



AFTER—Happy USTASHI carry head through streets,  
restaurants as souvenir.

Saw, knife and gun used on this Serbian peasant.



# Killers and their victim



Horribly mutilated body of well known Serbian industrialist known for his kindness and generosity—MILOS TESLIC.

The more heinous the crime, the greater the promotion and decoration. Ustashi, therefore, kept photographic records so that they would not be considered a "bad Ustashi", or an "enemy of the State"





**Ustashi “masterpieces”**







## VICTIMS OF CROATIAN GENOCIDE



**Ustashi criminals feast at a banquet**



"Notorious enemies" of the Croatian State at Stara Gradiska concentration camp. To exterminate them more efficiently the Ustashi gave these children caustic soda in their food !





# Bloody Baptismal Bath In The Church of Glina



*(From files of notorious USTASHA police chief—BOZIDAR CEROVSKI, Zagreb).*

One of the survivors relates this bloody baptism—Croatian Catholic idea of 'PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH'  
August 21, 1941

When there is absolutely no escape, when your friends and relatives are being slaughtered right before your eyes, when you see a special squad whom they call "skull crusher experts" because they smash heads to a pulp—is it a nightmare? Surely it must be. Impossible! You heard their voices. You relive the scene over and over again. The butchers drenched in human blood. It's almost your turn. But I am

alive. How did I manage to escape?"

These are the thoughts with which LJUBO JADNAK has had to live since that 21st day of August, 1941. In his own words he tells what he remembers of that sea of blood.

"They started with one huge husky peasant who began singing an old historical heroic song of the Serbs. They put his head on the table and as he continued to sing they slit his throat

and then the next squad moved in to smash his skull. I was paralyzed. 'This is what you are all getting' an USTASHA screamed. USTASHA surrounded us. There was absolutely no escape. Then the slaughter began. One group stabbed with knives, the other followed, smashing heads to make certain everyone was dead. Within a matter of minutes we stood in a lake of blood. Screams and wails, bodies drop-

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A Jesuit Priest, Dr. DRAGUTIN KAMBER, sworn USTASHI priest in Doboj, appointed in April, 1941 to the post of USTASHI Confidante for the DISTRICT OF DOBOJ with all political and civil power concentrated in his hands. He ordered the killing of approximately 300 people in his district with another 250 court martialed on his order.

Published in the newspaper NOVLIST on August 16, 1941, Dr. Kamber said of the NAZIS who were in Doboj:

---

ping right and left. Suddenly the doors opened. The trucks were ready to load. A small group of us hid. They started to load the bodies on the trucks. I heard a voice call out to check the whole church to make certain none of us was left alive. I threw myself among the dead lying on the floor. I was already splattered with blood. Before they dragged the bodies out, one of the 'experts' tapped the heads with a mallet to make certain every bit of life was gone from the bodies. I remember the thud of the mallet but felt no pain. I heard one say 'these are all finished.' Then from my right I heard one of the peasants who had also thrown himself among the group, get to his knees and plead for his life. They tortured this man unmercifully. They took a candle and burned his eyes, then stabbed him and crushed his skull.

"Finally one of the men said it was time to load again. He said the trucks had already made five trips. One man grabbed me by my legs and dragged me down the steps. My arms were spread eagle fashion. I didn't dare show any sign of life even though I wanted to scream as I was dragged over the rock path. When we came to the truck another USTASHA lifted my shoulders and they threw me into the air. I landed on top of the heap of bodies. I felt another and another thrown on top of me. One was bleeding so profusely the warm blood trickled all over me. It was gruesome. I

**"We (USTASHI) love you sincerely as friends; we respect you highly; and all of us are sorry, deeply sorry, that we must part. We love you! We love you because you carry in your hands the most powerful sword that has ever been forged in the history of mankind.**

**"You are brothers and manly knights by your behavior and by your deeds. The Paradise to which the Germans (Nazi) are going needs no better propagandists than the (NAZI) soldiers of Germany, this German Army. We respect you because you are fighting to give political and social justice to all of Europe. With the blood and the bones of precious German (NAZI) soldiers, the flower of Germany, you are building the foundations of a happy world for future generations."**

To many Father Kamber is one of the 'spiritual leaders' of the USTASHI "movement." He escaped

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didn't dare move. Two USTASHA jumped on the back of the truck and we were off. I could tell in which way we were heading from the scenery. When we came to a large field in one of the nearby villages, they stopped and started unloading the bodies. I turned my head to the left and could see through the slots of the truck as they threw body after body as though they were sacks of cements. One USTASHA shouted to pile the bodies neatly in the ditch so that everyone could fit.

"Then they came to my truck. Again I felt paralyzed. If only I could hold out. However, by this time I was so blood-soaked I felt as though I had on a mask. Then as I was thrown into the ditch several bodies followed, one landing on my feet. He moved and groaned as he landed. One of the USTASHA yelled: 'Damned them—look this one is still alive—shoot.' As they pumped bullets into the man one hit my leg. I felt only the blood trickling down my leg. I moved my toes

from Yugoslavia with the rest of the USTASHI when they ran like rats. But he always had a word of advice for his USTASHI so it is only natural that in 1941 he let his USTASHI henchmen know "why I like the (Nazi) Germans." In a Sarajevo newspaper called "OSVIT" on December 18, 1942 he said:

**"Why do I want the (Nazi) Germans and their Allies Italy, Hungary, Bulgaria, etc., to win? Because without the (Nazi) Germans our nation would die and we would have no Independent State of Croatia. From the international point of view the (Nazi) Germans and the USTASHI have the same enemies."**

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and felt relieved that the bullet had not penetrated the bone. When they were about finished with the unloading, one of the USTASHA called to his buddy to help him take off my undershirt! I think I stopped breathing altogether. However, they managed to pull the undershirt over my head and then threw me back into the hole. I had lain there quietly for what seemed an eternity after the sound of the trucks left. I was too terrified to move for fear that some USTASHA might still be guarding. A soft quiet rain began to fall. Then I heard a voice whisper 'Are you alive?' I didn't answer. I felt someone crawling over the bodies coming closer and closer. Finally, he asked again, 'Are you alive?' I turned my head slightly and saw who it was. We crawled out of the ditch and on our stomachs we reached the cornfield. We separated. He went into another direction because he said he had some relatives. Later I learned that his relatives reported him and he was shot. I was lucky."

# Catholic Priest Tells “BITTER TRUTH ABOUT CRKVENI-BOK”

“THOU SHALT NOT STEAL”—PUNISHABLE BY DEATH  
(Such was the law in the books of ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC, Minister of Interior)

In a letter written by Father Augustin Kralj, Pastor of the Catholic church in Crkveni-Bok, on October 16, 1942, he wrote that the “bitter truth should be told by a Catholic concerning the methods employed in Crkveni-Bok.”

He said he learned that most of the people from the village of Crkveni-Bok, which had about 2,500 residents including those converted to Catholicism, had been taken to Jasenovac concentration camp. He said he arrived at the police station and tried to save CERTAIN people but he did not succeed until he drew up a list of ONLY those whom he knew as CATHOLIC BY BIRTH and who were mistakenly taken along with the others for internment. He succeeded in getting these Catholics separated from the others and then when he left the station, he returned to the village where he saw only the USTASE. He described the horror he witnessed as they were all going around either with a small or large bottle of brandy. Some were even drunk. But

his greatest shock came when he found some of them STEALING! He reprimanded them severely telling them to stop STEALING if they wanted to escape being sentenced to death! He said some of the people of Crkveni-Bok were already gathered at the bank of the Sava River and that the shooting continued all day. (One of the heavy massacres took place that day, but this priest was too preoccupied to bother or protest).

Father Kralj said he was *appalled* by the SWEARING not only of the ordinary USTASE but also by their officers! Even more, Father Kralj said he was *appalled* by the THEFTS committed by the Catholics in charge of collecting the villagers' possessions for the State! He continued that as a priest he was not permitted to denounce these persons because there were too many and they would LOSE THEIR LIVES FOR THESE CRIMES (STEALING), which under other circumstances would not warrant so severe a sentence.

He said it was a sad day, October 14, 1942, because of the appearance of the buildings. All of them were empty, damaged, and they were turned upside down! He couldn't understand why these methods were used by the USTASE authorities against “these people who had fulfilled all their duties to the State. They gave hay to the Army, they gave 250 kilograms of fat free, they entered military service, they gave 250 wagons to Jasenovac and took wood to Jasenovac.”

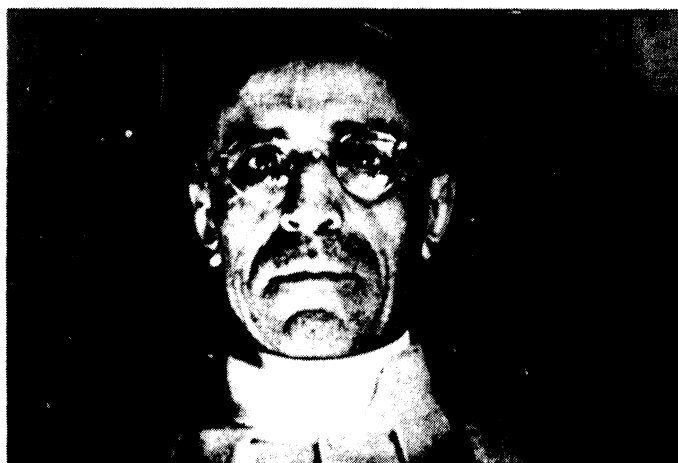
Father Kralj said he would like to have those people who were not interned, return to Crkveni-Bok—even if to empty houses for he was their pastor for a year. He said he would be grateful and signed:

“ZA DOM SPREMNI!  
(Heil, READY FOR THE  
FATHERLAND!)

Augustin Kralj,  
Pastor of the Parish  
Crkveni-Bok-Sunja  
October 16, 1942.”

## ENEMIES OF CROATIAN STATE





His Holiness Pope Pius XII (1939-1958) never raised his voice against Croatian genocide in Yugoslavia. Vatican recognized the Independent State of Croatia and supported the conversion to Catholicism.

After the war Archbishop of Croatia Stepinac was rewarded for his collaboration with the Ustashi murderers by being promoted to the rank of Cardinal.

Why  
was  
Vatican  
silent ?

Did  
the Pope  
approve  
of  
genocide ?

"Heroic deed" of special Ustashi group called "SKULL CRUSHERS" ! They sent pictures like this one to their leaders to show what good work they were doing.



## Extermination of Serbian Orthodox Clergy In the Independent State of Croatia

**F**OR SEVEN long years, Yugoslavia has been trying to extradite the notorious war criminal ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC from the United States not as a political opponent, BUT AS AN INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF THOUSANDS OF MEN, WOMEN AND EVEN CHILDREN, AND CLERGYMEN.

In his capacity as Minister of Interior of the quisling state which Hitler and Mussolini set up in Croatia, ARTUKOVIC had in the period from April, 1941 to October, 1942 ordered the extermination of entire ethnic or religious groups of the population. On his initiative, bands of his USTASHI butchers tortured and murdered people with fanatical savagery in the concentration camps which ARTUKOVIC set up.

The USTASHI rounded up the Serbian priests wherever they found them—in their homes, on the streets or in the churches. Vilified and humiliated, the Serbian priests were first tortured and then put to death in the most dreadful ways. The USTASHI were ordered to pour kerosene over the beards of the priests (beards are the insignia of Orthodox priests) then set fire to them. Many were burned alive in churches or cemeteries, butchered or taken to the edge of precipices or rivers and killed with knives or sticks.

On May 5, 1941, the USTASHI broke into the residence of Bishop of Banja Luka, PLATON JOVANOVIĆ (68 years old and ailing). They dragged him to the Vrbanja River and killed him. Fifteen days later the Bishop's body was washed ashore and the fishermen who found him also found his staff on the banks of the river.

The 75 year old Metropolitan Dabro-Bosanski, PETAR ZIMONJIC was subjected to long torturing before being killed. He was arrested in his residence in Sarajevo. His beard and mustache were shaved. He was forced to clean the prison

latrines. Finally, after being tortured into physical exhaustion, he was killed.

Bishop of Gornji Karlovac, SVE-TOZAR-SAVA TRLAJIC was subjected to terrible torture and humiliation in the prison of Gospić, in the middle of August, 1941, and together with about 2,000 other Serbians, he was led toward Velebit Mountain and neither he nor any of the others were ever seen alive again.

The list of the murdered Serbian Orthodox priests includes 158 names. There was not a single aparchy in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina spared, nor a single parish or monastery that had escaped disaster.

Here is that grim list.

- ILIJA ADJUKOVIC, parish priest of Srednja Gora, District of Ud-bina
- Proteereus DJURO ALAGIC, parish of Gornje Dubrave, District of Ogulin
- Deacon DUSAN ASKRABIC, teacher of divinity, of Mostar
- DANE BABIC, parish priest of Svinica, District of Petrinja
- NIKOLA BAN, catechist of Bjelovar
- MILAN BANJAC, parish priest of Drvar
- SIMO BANJAC, parish priest of Kamen, near Glamoc
- Protoereus Dr. BRANKO BARAC, parish priest of Sisak
- BRANKO BILANOVIC, theologian from Zitomislic Monastery, District of Mostar
- JOVAN BJEGOJEVIC, catechist at the Secondary School in Bihac
- DUSAN BLAGOJE, parish priest of Stolac
- Ereus DOBROSAV BLAZEVIC, parish priest of Donji Vakuf, District of Bugojno
- Protoereus DUSAN BOBAREVIC, parish priest and archiereusian vicar in Vlasenica
- Ereus DJORDJE BOGIC, parish priest of Nasice
- NIKOLA BOGUNOVIC, parish priest of Donji Lapac
- Ereus MILAN BOZIC, parish priest of divinity in Sarajevo
- DANILO BRAKUS, parish priest of Bijelo Polje, District of Korenica
- BRANKO BRZIN, parish priest of Bolce, District of Bjelovar
- ILIJA BUDIMIR, parish priest of Crni Lug, near Bosansko Grahovo
- RISTO CATIC, priest of Gubin, near Livno
- Protodeacon VLADIMIR CEJOVIC, secretary of the Ecclesiastical Court in Mostar
- Protoereus ALEKSANDAR CUPOVIC, parish priest and archidistrict of Djakovo
- ereusian vicar in Bracevci, District of Ogulin
- Hieromonach ANTIM CULUMOVIC, friar of Travna Monastery
- STEVAN CURCIC, parish priest of Ogulin
- JOVAN CUTURIC, parish priest of Velika Obarska, District of Bijeljina
- Protoereus ZIVKO DANILOVIC, parish priest of Ljubija, District of Prijedor
- Abbot ILARON DERETIC, head of Zavala Abbey, District of Ljubinje
- DUSAN DIKLIC, parish priest of Plitvicka Jezera, District of Korenica
- MILAN DIKLIC, parish priest of Kolinj, District of Perusic
- Protoereus BRANKO DOBROSAVLJEVIC, parish priest of Veljun, District of Slunj
- Protoereus MILAN I. DOKMANOVIC, parish priest of Plasko, District of Ogulin
- MILE DOKMANOVIC, parish priest of Perjasica, District of Vojnic
- MILOJKO DOSEN, parish priest of Pocitelj, District of Gospić
- Protoereus VLADIMIR DUJIC, parish priest and archiereusian vicar in Srpske Moravice, District of Vrbosko
- BOGDAN DJOGOVIC, parish

- priest of Mostar
- LJUBOMIR KRNJIC, parish priest of Brodci, District of Bijeljina
  - Protoereus BOGDAN LALIC, catechist of Sarajevo
  - PANTELIIJA LANDUP, parish priest of Kamensko, District of Pakrac
  - Protoereus RADOVAN LAPCEVIC, parish priest of Blatusa, District of Vrginmost
  - SPASO LAVRNJA, parish priest of Suvaja Licka
  - JOVAN LAZAREVIC, priest of Kozluk, District of Zvornik
  - Protoereus JOVAN MAGARSEVIC, archiereusian vicar and parish priest of Tuzla
  - PETAR MAJSTOROVIC, parish priest of Licki Doljani, District of Donji Lapac
  - Protoereus DUSAN MALOBABIC, parish priest of Kolaric, District of Vojnick
  - STAVRO MANASTIRLIC, parish priest on Pocrnje and Lastva
  - Protoereus MILIS MANDIC, archiereusian vicar and parish priest in Gracac
  - Protoereus DJURO MARIJAN, parish priest of Sanj
  - RISTO MARKOVIC, parish priest of Zagon, District of Bijeljina
  - DRAGOMIR MASKIJEVIC, parish priest of Derventa, District of Vlasenica
  - SIMEON MATIC, parish priest of Trzic, District of Slunj
  - VOJISLAV MEDAN, parish priest of Dabar, District of Stolac
  - DJORDE MILOJEVIC, parish priest of Novi Pavljani, District of Bjelovar
  - Hieromonach SEVASTIJAN MILOVANOVIC, parish priest of Duvno and friar of Zitomisljic Monastery
  - MILADIN MINIC, parish priest of Biljesevo, District of Zenica
  - VASILIIJE NAKARADA, parish priest of Masvin, District of Slunj
  - STANISLAV NASADIL, parish priest of Licka Jasenica, District of Ogulin
  - Hieromonach EMILIJAN NEDIC, friar of Tavna Monastery
  - TIHOMIR NESKOVIC, parish priest of Janja, District of Bijeljina
  - PETAR NINKOVIC, parish priest of Vojnic
  - Protoereus PAVLE OBRADOVIC, parish priest of Nebljins, District of Donji Lap
  - NOVAK OKIJEVIC, novice of Zitomisljic Monastery
  - BOGDAN O'ACIC, priest of the Second Parish in Bacuga and archiereusian vicar for the District of Glina
  - Protoereus DRAGOMIR OSTOJIC, priest of Zvornik
  - DIMITRIJE PANTELIC, parish priest of Cadjavica, District of Bijeljina
  - VUJADIN PANJKOVIC, parish priest of Debelo Brdo, District of Korenica
  - ILIJA PAVLICA, parish priest of Munjava, District of Ogulin
  - Hierodeacon MAKARIJE PEJAK, friar of Zitomisljic Monastery
  - PETAR PEJANOVIC, parish priest of Mostar
  - MILORAD PEKIC, parish priest of Sibosnica, District of Broko
  - VUKASIN PETKOVIC, parish priest of Mostar
  - MILOS PETROVIC, parish priest of Luzani, District of Derventa
  - MILE PEURACA, parish priest of Gornje Budacko, District of Vojnic
  - Protoereus MARKO POPOVIC, parish priest of Blagaj, District of Bugojno
  - MIHAJLO POPOVIC, parish priest of Polaca, District of Knin
  - Deacon MILENKO POPOVIC, teacher of divinity of Bijeljina
  - SAVO POPOVIC, parish priest of Brezovo Polje, District of Brcko
  - Protoereus STEVAN POPOVIC, parish priest of Medjas, District of Bijeljina
  - Theologian MARKO RODANOVIC, of Zitomisljic Monastery
  - Protoereus NIKOIA RADMANOVIC, parish priest of Slusnica and archiereusian vicar for the District of Slunj
  - DIMITRIJE RAJANOVIC, parish priest of Nisic, District of Sarajevo
  - Protoereus MILAN RAJCEVIC, procurator of the Ecclesiastic Court in Plasko, District of Ogulin
  - UROS RAJCEVIC, parish priest of Mogoric, District of Gospic
  - OGNJEN RADIC, parish priest of Mostar
  - Protoereus PETAR RASETA, parish priest of Bunic, District of Korenica
  - DRAGO RISTANOVIC, student of theology, born in Rupjeli, near Trebinje
  - RODOLJUB SAMARDZIC, priest of Kulen Vakuf
  - JANKO SAVIC, priest of Knežina, District of Vlasenica
  - MILOS SAVIC, parish priest of Milici, District of Vlasenica
  - ANDREJ SEMULICKI, parish priest of Majur, District of Djakovo
  - Protoereus NIKOLA SKAKIC, priest of Sarajevo
  - VUKOLAJ SKENDZIC, parish priest of Brinj
  - DMITAR SKOURPAN, parish priest of Cvijetanovica Brdo, District of Slunj
  - DOBROSAV SOKOVIC, parish priest of Poblak, District of Priboj
  - RADE STANISAVLJEVIC, teacher of divinity in Karlovac
  - Protoereus KOSTA STANISIC, parish priest of Livno
  - Protoereus JOVAN STANOJEVIC, archiereusian vicar in Pakrac
  - Protoereus SPIRIDON STAROVIC, parish priest of Avtovac, District of Gacko
  - JASA STEPANOV, priest of the Third Parish in Plasko, District of Ogulin
  - MATIJA STIJACIC, parish priest of Smiljan, District of Gospic
  - DJURO STOJANOVIC, teacher of divinity at the Continuation School in Plasko
  - MIRKO STOJISAVLJEVIC, priest of Glamoc
  - Protoereus DUSAN SUBOTIC, Archiereusian vicar and parish priest in Bosanska Gradiska
  - Abbot METODIJE SUBOTIN, parish priest of Vrbovsko and friar of Gomirje Monastery
  - LJUBOMIR SVITLIC, parish priest of Vrsnai, District of Bijeljina
  - BOZIDAR SARENAC, parish priest of Dracevo, District of Ljubinje
  - LJUBOMIR SKORIC, parish priest of Modrani, District of Bijeljina
  - DAMJAN STRBAC, priest of Bosansko Grahovo
  - Hieromonach DOSITEJ STULIC, friar of Krupa Monastery
  - DUSAN SUSNJAR, parish priest of Dunjak, District of Vojnic

(Continued on next page)



**CATHOLIC USTASHA**  
ridicules Serbian Orthodox religion with  
stole taken from village home after killing  
occupant—Serbian priest.



- priest of Kifino Selo, District of Nevesinje
- Ereus MILAN DJUKIC, Secretary of the Eparchic Administrative Board in Plasko, District of Ogulin
- Hieromonach IGNAJATIJE DJURIC, parish priest of Velika Kladusa
- Hieromonach ANTONIJE GAJIC, friar of Lepavina Monastery and administrator of the Parish of Mala Tresnjevica, District of Djurdjenovac
- BOGOLJUB GAKOVIC, secretary of the Ecclesiastical Court in Plasko, District of Ogulin
- VOJISLAV GASIC, parish priest of Tutnjevac, District of Bijeljina
- DUSAN GAVRANOVIC, parish priest of Vagan, District of Knin
- MILAN GOLUBOVIC, priest of Drvar
- DJORDJE GOSPIC, parish priest of Crnjelovo, District of Bijeljina
- JOVAN GROZDANIC, curate-in-charge in Radun, District of Gospic
- Protoereus MIHAJLO GUTOVSKI, parish priest of Trebinje, District of Vojnic
- Protoereus VLADIMIR GVOZDENOVIC, parish priest of Mostar
- LJUBOMIR HAJDINOVIC, parish priest of Capljina, District of Mostar

#### NEW YORK TIMES—JANUARY 1, 1942

Below is a reprint from the New York Times of a memorandum by Archbishop of the Serbian Orthodox Church:

*"At Korenica hundreds of persons were killed but before they died many of them had their ears and noses cut off and then they were compelled to graze on grass. The tortures most usually applied were beatings, severing of limbs, gorging of eyes and breaking of bones. Cases are related of men being forced to hold red-hot bricks, dance on barbed wire with naked feet, wear a wreath of thorns. Needles were stuck in fingers under the nails, and lighted matches held under the noses."*

*"Of the murders on the large scale in the village of Korito 103 peasants were severely tortured, tied in bundles and thrown in a pit . . . then gasoline was poured over all the bodies and ignited."*

- Protoereus ILIJA ILIC, member of the Ecclesiastical Court of the Eparchy of Gornji-Karlovac
- LJUBOMIR JAKSIC, parish priest of Han-Pijesak, District of Vlasentica
- DIMITRIJE JERKOVIC, parish priest of Siroka Kula, District of Gospic
- MIHALJO R. JOVANOVIC, priest of Brodac, resident in Bijeljina
- MIHAJLO T. JOVANOVIC, parish priest of Jablanica, District of Brcko
- PLATON JOVANOVIC, Bishop of Banja Luka, resident in Banja Luka
- (Hieromonach SEVASTIJAN JOVIC, Curate-in-charge in Drnas
- Protoereus PAVLE KATANIC, archiereusian vicar in Bijeljina
- JOVAN KNJAZEV, parish priest of Zovik, District of Brcko
- Hieromonach SAVA KOJIC, Curate-in-charge in Buhaca, District of Slunj
- Abbot TEOFIL KOSANOVIC, head of Gomirje Monastery, District of Ogulin
- RADOVAN KOVACEVIC, parish priest of Primislje, District of Slunj
- VASILIJE KOVACINA, parish priest of Matkovic
- Protoereus DUSAN KRNEJIC,

(Continued on next page)





For every Artukovic USTASHA killed, 10 innocent people chosen at random were executed.

The most notorious cut-throats recorded in the twentieth century gripped the country, yet the Archbishop of Zagreb (Cardinal) Stepinac sings praise (November 27, 1941) to its 'glorious leaders' saying:

**"It is not drunkards, nor murderers, nor thieves, usurpers, fornicators, nor card players who form the firm foundation of our (USTASHI) fatherland, but hard-working, sober, honest, and conscientious men!"**



priest of Radovica, District of Slunj

—Hieromonach KONSTANTIN VUCUREVIC, Head of Zitomislic Monastery

—MILOS VUJIC, parish priest of Radovica, District of Slunj

—Protoereus JEVTO VUJOVIC, a member of the Ecclesiastical Court and archiereusian vicar in Mostar

—Hieromonach DOSITEJ VUKICEVIC, friar of Zitomislic Monastery

—NIKOLA ZAGORAC, parish priest of Licko Petrovo Selo, District of Korenica

—JOVAN ZECEVIC, parish priest of the village of Bozuce, District of Zepce

—SLAVKO ZJALIC, parish priest of Paklenica, District of Novska

—PETAR ZIMONJIC, Metropolitan Dabrobosanski, resident in Sarajevo

—Protodeacon LAZAR ZIVADINOVIC, secretary of the Ecclesiastical Court in Zagreb

—Protoereus GLIGORIJE ZIVKOVIC, parish priest of Bacuga, District of Glina

Mass conversion to Catholicism of Serbs in village of Dubica. Notice USTASHI three fingered symbol—"BOG I HRVATI" (God and the Croats)



PAVELICH ORDERED HIS MEN:  
 "DON'T COME TO ME UNLESS YOU  
 HAVE KILLED 200 SERBIANS"

## WAS HE GUILTY OF MURDER?

**This Ustasha believed himself innocent because he killed only 63!**

When an eye-witness, Gjordana Friedlender testified against ANTE VRBAN, USTASHA Commander of Stara Gradiska, concentration camp notorious for killing thousands, especially children, she said:

"... At that time women and children came daily to Camp Stara Gradiska. Vrbani ordered all children to be separated from their mothers and put in one room. Ten of us were told to carry them there in blankets. The children crawled about the room and one child put an arm and leg through the doorway, so that the door could not be closed. Vrbani shouted 'Push it!' When I did not do that, he banged the door and crushed the child's leg. Then he took the child by the whole leg, and banged it against the wall until it was dead. When the room was full, Vrbani ordered that poison gas be used to kill the rest."

And what did ARTUKOVIC'S ANTE VRBAN say in his defense when on trial for murder? He shouted:

"But I did not kill hundreds of children personally—I only killed 63."

- ILIJAH TINTOR, parish priest of Srpska Jasenica, District of Bosanska Krupa
- KONSTANTIN TODOROVIC, parish priest of Ugljevik, District of Bijeljina
- PETAR TOVIRAC, parish priest of Zabrdje, District of Bijeljina
- SVETOZAR-SAVA TRLAJIC, Bishop of Gornji Karlovac, resident in Karlovac
- Protoereus MIHAJLO VASIC, priest of Banja Luka
- Protoereus VIDAK VISNJEVAC, teacher of divinity of Gacko
- BOGDAN VRANJESEVIC, parish priest of Krupa on the Vrbas, District of Banja Luka
- PETAR VUCINIC, a member of the Ecclesiastical Court in Plasko
- NIKOLA VUCKOVIC, parish

### Dr. Nikola Nikolic in Jasenovac

In his book, Dr. Nikola Nikolić, one of the lucky survivors from Jasenovac concentration camp—exchanged for some German prisoners—relates some, unbelievable human atrocities committed in Jasenovac.

One of the most notorious was Miroslav (Majstorović) Filipović who headed a group called executioners.

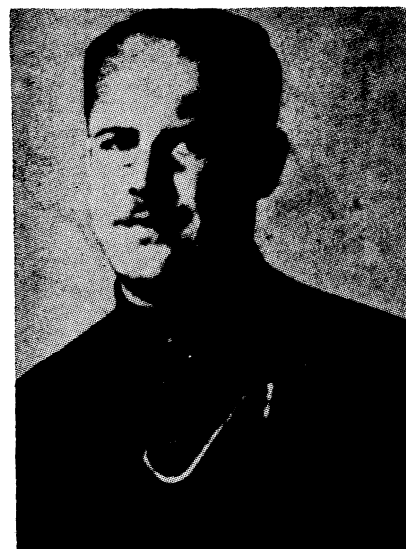
Filipović came to Jasenovac following the unparalleled savage slaughter in the village of Krivaja near Banja Luka.

Filipović was a Franciscan monk. Dressed in his robe he entered the classroom of the little village schoolroom wearing an USTASHI cap. He ordered the teacher, Mara Sunjić, to separate the Serbian Orthodox children from the Catholics. When she did that, not suspecting any evil, he slaughtered these Serbian children before the eyes of their little playmates.

The children ran around the classroom with their throats slashed, blood spattering all around, their little faces contorted in pain and terror. Most of the remaining children went insane, while Mara Sunjić, once a strong healthy girl, today lives and relives in horror that day. Only ruins remain of Mara Sunjić.

So savage was this slaughter that Filipović fled to Zagreb. So pleased were his leaders with his hatred for the Serbs that Artuković immediately gave him the rank of Major in the army and assigned him to Jasenovac Concentration camp. Filipović exchanged his Friar's robe for an USTASHI uniform and in Jasenovac became a crazed killer.

He had himself photographed



MIROSLAV FILIPOVIC a Franciscan monk and USTASHA admitted at his trial that his first victim was a child. He said he told the USTASHI:

"USTASHI, I re-christen these degenerates in the name of God and you follow my example."

When captured he boasted that he had participated in the murder of over 40,000 men, women and children at JASENOVAC.

Even some of the USTASHI couldn't stomach the excesses of this crazed killer.

(1950—Escaped Croatian Franciscans operate USTASHI headquarters, Chicago, Ill.)

after a massacre with blood dripping from his knife, clothes all spattered with blood, holding a cross in his hand and beaming with laughter.

# Surviving Jews Remember

(Over 80% of the Jewish population in Croatia was liquidated during the Ustashi reign of terror)

**"THE JEWISH QUESTION HAS BEEN SOLVED THROUGH RESOLUTE AND SOUND MOVES,"** said ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC as Minister of Interior in the "Independent State of Croatia," in a speech delivered in February, 1942.

Sixteen years later, at a moment when, after a seven-year dispute over formal questions, the substance of the Yugoslav demand for the extradition of this war criminal is again coming before the courts in Los Angeles, California, a group of aged people still recall with horror the methods used by ARTUKOVIC to reach that "solution" of which he spoke.

The group is comparatively small, numbering around a hundred. They are residents of the Home for Old People of the Federation of Jewish Communes in Zagreb, Yugoslavia. However, there is not one who has not sampled ARTUKOVIC'S USTASHI concentration camps or prisons.

The majority of these people have survived by sheer accident, some being the sole survivors of large families. Their memories of the hair-raising suffering and tortures endured by the helpless in the concentration camps in Pavelic's and Artukovic's Croatia are comparable with the darkest pages from the recollections of those who survived the nightmares of Hitler's Mathausen and Auschwitz.

Mrs. Fanika Svabenic, living in this Home for Old People, is 75 years old. She knows what is meant by ARTUKOVIC'S "solution to the Jewish question" for over a hundred members of her family and close relatives in Zagreb, Koprivnica, Bjelovar and Podravska Slatina were exterminated by his 'method.' The victims include four daughters, four sons-in-law, and four grandsons. Three of her sons-in-law were killed in Jasenovac

concentration camp while her daughter and her grandchildren were killed at Auschwitz camp in Germany.

Another member of this home, Jahiel Poljokan and his wife, Rahe-la, lost over sixty members of their next of kin and close relatives. Out of the whole family only a child survived.

The President of the Home's Curatorium, Rafael Montiljo, has also been a victim of dreadful persecution. He lost his whole family, four married brothers with their children, and his sister. He came from Bosnia.

"In our Home," Montiljo said, "the majority of the old men and women are from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. In my native province, Bosnia, the majority of the Jews were liquidated through ARTUKOVIC'S cruel measures. Only a few have survived—those who managed to flee or who had joined the anti-Fascist fighters. In 1941 there were 11,000 Jews living in Sarajevo; only 800 have survived the war. Of the 14,000 Jews in the whole of Bosnia and Herzegovina a mere 2,000 have survived."

Blanka Doner, a member of the Home's Curatorium also was imprisoned, together with her husband, a noted lawyer, she said:

"Just now we have a little over a hundred old men and women in the Home. Over-all they lost more than 1,500 of their dearest ones, whether next of kin or very close relatives. Last year Hermina Rosenberg died. She had lost eight sons in the massacres organized by ARTUKOVIC. And when we were burying another old woman, Mrs. Kardos, recently, inscribed on her tombstone were the names of over twenty victims from her family."

The Vice President of the Jewish Commune in Zagreb, Dr. Milan

Polak recalls the murder of 170 Jewish youth aged from 16 to 19 years who had been brought to the DANICA concentration camp at Koprivnica.

"In May, 1941, I myself was interned in that camp when those 170 young men were brought from Zagreb," Dr. Polak related. "ARTUKOVIC'S USTASHI had managed to round them up by a ruse, having told them that they were wanted for road building work. They were ordered to put on their best clothes to which they had to affix yellow badges on their chests and backs. This yellow badge was a special order issued by ARTUKOVIC which immediately identified all Jews. Afterwards these youths were isolated, completely despoiled, tortured, starved and ultimately taken to Jadovno, in Lika where every one of them was killed."

The President of the Jewish Commune in Zagreb, Dr. Lav Singer, stated:

"Nearly 80 per cent of the Jews in Croatia were killed during ARTUKOVIC'S era in power, from April, 1941 to October, 1942. ARTUKOVIC, who suggested and participated in the enactment of the laws and WHO ISSUED ALL THE ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS USTASHI for the commission of these crimes not only against the Jews and Serbs, but against his own Croat co-nationals and gypsies, bears the responsibility of these horrors. In 1941 there were around 75,000 Jews in Yugoslavia. Of this number over 60,000 perished during the PAVELIC-ARTUKOVIC quisling government. We, the Jews of Croatia, demand that this criminal be extradited and brought to trial. It is dictated by all the laws of justice and the conscience of mankind."

# Extermination of Jewish Rabbis and Cantors

## (PARTIAL LIST OF MURDERED RABBIS AND CANTORS)

Dr. Deutsham, Rabbi at Ludbreg, aged about 70;  
Dr. Simon Ungar, Rabbi of Osijek, aged about 60;  
Hinko Gruenwald, Rabbi at Podravska Slatina, aged about 95;  
Ilija Gruenwald, Chief Rabbi at Cakovac, aged about 55;  
Miroslav Freiburger, Chief Rabbi at Zagreb, aged about 40;  
Dr. M. Heisz, Chief-Rabbi at Sisak, aged about 60;  
Dr. Rudolf Gluech, Rabbi at Varaždin, aged about 70;  
Dr. N. Kohn, Rabbi at Koprivnica, aged about 58;  
David Meissl, Cantor at Karlovac, aged about 55;  
Leo Wolfenzon, Cantor at Koprivnica, aged about 55;  
Izidor Dolf, Cantor at Bjelovar, aged about 45;  
Leon Katan, Cantor at Brčko, aged 66;  
Leopold Katz, Rabbi and Cantor at Daruvar, aged about 65;  
Josip Gilmann, Rabbi and Cantor at Daruvar, aged about 65;  
N. Schwartz, Rabbi and Cantor at Donji Miholjac, aged about 45;  
Solomon Baruch, Rabbi and Cantor at Dubrovnik, aged 42;  
Alexander Roth, Cantor at Djakovo;  
M. Roth, Rabbi at Murska Sobota, aged 70;  
Lavoslav Buchsbaum, Chief Cantor at Krizevci, aged 72;  
David Perera, Rabbi at Mostar, aged about 40;  
Jakov Schmelzer, Cantor at Nasice, aged about 35;  
Andrija Trilnik, Rabbi at Nova Gradiška, aged about 30;  
Paul Froehlich, Chief Cantor at Osijek, aged 28;  
Isidor Guren, Cantor at Osijek, aged about 60;  
Izak Freides, Rabbi at Pakrac, aged about 55;  
Jakov Klinkovstajn, Chief Cantor at Sisak, aged about 65;  
Mordeschsil Rikow, Rabbi at Slavonska Pozega, aged about 70;  
Izak Finzi, Rabbi at Split;  
Otto Deutsch, Rabbi at Susak;

***“Mr. Minister, (ARTUKOVIC), I do not think it can bring Croatia any glory if it is said of us that we have solved the Jewish problem in the most radical way, that is to say, the cruelest. The solution of this question must provide only for the punishment of Jews who have committed crimes, but not for the persecution of innocent people,” said Archbishop of Zagreb (Cardinal) Stepinac. in a letter to Minister of Interior Andrija ARTUKOVIC.***

Izak Baruch; Rabbi at Travnik;  
Jakov Kohn, Cantor at Varazdin;  
N. Kohn, Rabbi and Cantor at Banja Luka;  
Mijo Propper, Chief Cantor at Vinkovci, aged about 60;  
Izidor Hersmović, Cantor at Vinkovci, aged about 60;  
Adolf Springer, Chief Cantor at Virovitica, aged about 45;  
Vijoslav Mandel, Cantor at Vukovar, aged 32;  
Josip Weissmann, Chief Cantor in pension, of Zagreb, aged 73;  
M. Loewy, Dean and Professor at the School of Rabbis at Zagreb, aged about 70;  
Eugen Mandel, Cantor at Zagreb, aged about 35;  
Lavoslav Kahn, Cantor of the Orthodox Jewish Community at Zagreb, aged about 45;  
aged about 45;  
Samuel Singer, Cantor of Zagreb, aged about 65;  
David Atijas, Cantor of Zagreb;  
Arnold Basch, Cantor of Zagreb, aged about 27;  
Dragutin Vogel, Cantor of Zagreb, aged 27;  
Dr. N. Schlank, Chief Rabbi at Beograd, aged about 55;  
N. Grossmann, Chief Cantor of Beograd, aged about 55;  
Ignaz Klein, Rabbi at Pancevo, aged 48;

# WHY HE HATED AND KILLED JEWS IN CROATIA

In a policy speech delivered before the SABOR ("Independent State of Croatia" Parliament) published in NARODNE NOVINE-26 VELJACE (February 26) 1942, MINISTER OF INTERIOR, DR. ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC SAID:

**"The Independent State of Croatia, as an USTASHI State, finding itself in a state of self-defense against these *insatiable and poisonous parasites*, settled the so-called Jewish question, with a decisive and healthy grasp."**

"Proud and determined we stand before the face of the Croatian people opening and writing a new, and most glorious page of their history.

"What was only an age-old dream of the Croat sons, the ideal of so many generations, the cult of the souls of our fathers and of ourselves, too, has become—as published in the proclamation to the Croat people of April 10th, 1941—a reality, with God's providence, with the will of our allies, with the suffering through many centuries of the Croat people, and with the readiness to sacrifice on the part of our Poglavnik and the Ustashi movement here and abroad; because of this the free and Independent State of Croatia has become a reality."

Following a historical review, Artukovic then devotes half of his speech to the question of the extermination of the Jews. It begins:

"Immediately following the birth of former Yugoslavia, all enemies of the Croat people—the Jews, communists and Freemasons—united with those of the so-called Balkan Piemont, in order to destroy the Croatian people and all their national characteristics.

"In the life of former Yugoslavia the Jews, who worked for and prepared the world revolution, being helped in the endeavor by their two most important international lovers, the communists and Freemasons especially distinguished themselves; these three national factors have attempted with all their power to destroy and make impossible everything that was expressively Croatian.

"They tried to win the intelligent-sia to their side and estrange it from the Croat people, either by soft meas-

ures, that is by giving them flattering titles and lucrative positions or by force. On the other side, they tried, through various organizations and agencies to estrange the youth from the religion of their fathers and their family homes; and to get the workers into so-called workers organizations which fought on a class basis, and to estrange them from their own people.

"First, the former Communist Party of Yugoslavia, and later, the United Labor Socialist Federation of Yugoslavia, tried to mislead the Croat worker and put him in a fight against his own people. They tried to impoverish and degrade the peasant, keeping him all the time in financial and economic dependence, in political disunity and cultural darkness, in order to be able in a given moment to barter him as if he were goods on the exchange. All this, the Jews, as one of the most dangerous international organizations, tried to achieve world Jewry, which readied the world revolution in order that the Jews might gain full mastery over all goods of the world and all the power in the world, and to whom other peoples should serve as a means to their dirty profits and their insatiable materialistic and ravenous control of the world.

"International Jewry was aided in this endeavor by two other international affiliates; by the Communists, who preached their allegedly workers proletarian state, and by the Freemasons, who preached their so-called civilized spirit on the grounds of their so-called love for their fellow men.

"The Jews wanted to achieve these aims not only through international

Jewry as such, but also through the communists; because communism is the child of Jewry and one of the principle levers for the world mastery of the Jews. The communists wanted to destroy the leadership of individual nations and to take over power in the name of the so-called proletariat; but this proletariat had to be led by Jews, which is the fact of the matter indeed.

"Through various organizations the Judo-communists have tried to bring about the disintegration of the Croatian national body; to kill the belief of its youth and the love for family and homeland, to stir up the class hatred of the workers and to enslave, through circumventing way the peasants, in such a way that he loses the characteristics of the Croatian peasant people.

"The Croatian people, having re-established their Independent State of Croatia, could not do otherwise but to clean off the poisonous damagers and insatiable parasites—Jews, communists and Freemasons' from their national and state body. (Bravos)

"They have strangled the Croatian people in all sectors of their national life and have tried to disintegrate and poison not only their family life, their belief, their morals, their culture and their youth, but also their national life itself, (Bravos) their national Croatian feelings, their national Croatian consciousness. The Independent State of Croatia, as an Ustashi state, finding itself in a state of self defense against these insatiable and poisonous parasites, settled the so-called Jewish question with a decisive and healthy grasp. (Long lasting bravos)"

# THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE

## Genocide Has Destroyed Some Twenty Million Persons in the Last Fifty Years

In the first half of the twentieth century alone, the crime of genocide was perpetrated against the following human groups:

**Armenians**, 10,000 at the turn of the century;

**Jews**, several hundred thousand in 1902 and 1905 in Russia and other European countries;

**Armenians**, 1,200,000 in 1915-1916;

**Greeks**, about 500,000 in Smyrna in 1922;

**Christian Assyrians in Iraq**, 600 in 1933;

**Ukrainians**, since the occupation of their territory by the Soviets—including the massacre of Wynyca;

**Jews**, under the Axis, 6,000,000;

**Serbs**, in the so-called Independent State of Croatia, 800,000;

**Poles**, 3,000,000 since 1939, including the Soviet Katyn massacre;

**Tartar Moslems** in the Crimea, 300,000 in 1945, completely destroyed;

**Volga Germans**, 400,000 in 1942, completely destroyed;

**Greeks**, 8,000 in the Kerch Peninsula in 1944;

**Greeks**, 28,000 children kidnapped by Communist guerillas in 1947;

**Moslems**, 1,000,000 according to charges of Pakistan in the United Nations Security Council of February, 1948;

**Lithuanians**, some 600,000 since 1941 and still continuing;

**Latvians**, some 400,000 since 1941 and still continuing;

**Estonians**, between a quarter and a third of the entire population since 1941 and still continuing;

**Chechenes**, completely destroyed by the Soviets;

**Ingush**, completely destroyed by the Soviets;

**Kalmucks**, completely destroyed by the Soviets;

**Karachians**, completely destroyed by the Soviets;

**Balkarians**, completely destroyed by the Soviets;

**German Children** from the Eastern Zone of Germany are now being kidnapped by the Soviets.

**South Koreans**—In the United Nations, the South Korean representative charged, on May 3, 1951, the North Koreans of having committed genocide on clergymen and children during their invasion of South Korea.

## The World Must Face the Problem of Genocide in the Twentieth Century

While the nineteenth century was marked by the liberation of the individual and his entrance into political life, as well as by a strong movement of national liberation which helped many nations to achieve their unity and independence, the twentieth century is a century in which collective violence directed not so much against men in their individual capacity, but against entire nations, races and religious groups has become typical. The perpetrators never ask for the names of the victims of genocide. They mark them as members of groups. The persons slated for destruction are not called by names, but are listed by numbers tattooed on their flesh.

Therefore, the world should now focus its primary attention on the phenomenon of the mass extirpation of human groups and should organize collective measures to meet collective crime of great dimensions and fatal consequences for mankind.

## Genocide Committed on the Serbian People

For centuries the Serbian people have stood in the Balkans as a bulwark of Christian civilization against invaders and oppressors. As a consequence of their stand, great losses have been inflicted upon them in the course of centuries. The Ottoman Empire has tried to obliterate them both as a nation and as a religious group under conditions of peace. Several other foreign powers made attempts to destroy them during the First and Second World Wars. Genocide in its worst and most destructive form, however, was inflicted upon the Serbs in 1941-1945 by the members of the Croatian fascist movement, the Ustashi. In 1941, after the invasion of Yugoslavia by the Axis, a Croatian puppet state was created by the Axis under the name "Independent State of Croatia" and all power was given to the Ustashi. In that State, which comprised about 3,500,000 Croats and over 2,000,000 Serbs, the odious crime of genocide was perpetrated on the Serbian people by the Ustashi and large segments of the Croatian population.

This crime was not a consequence of aggression but was organized and directed against the Serbs as a nation and as a religious group with the aim of wiping them out and creating "an ethnically pure Croatian territory," according to Ante Pavelic, the head of the Ustashi who became head of the Independent State of Croatia.

## THE PROVISIONS OF THE GENOCIDE CONVENTION AS ILLUSTRATED BY SERBIAN EXPERIENCES

**ARTICLE I.** The Contracting Parties confirm that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war, is a crime against international law which they undertake to prevent and to punish.

This provision was adopted because it was deemed important to avoid confining the criminality of genocide to the time of war, since most of the crimes of genocide have been committed in time of peace.

Because of the exceptional destructiveness of the crime of genocide and the consequences it entails for all mankind, the United Nations General Assembly considered it proper to treat it as a special crime in a special convention. The General Assembly desired to avoid the difficulty which would arise from connecting genocide with other crimes such as war of aggression or crimes against humanity which, according to the Nuremberg principles, are connected with waging aggressive war.

The General Assembly was fully aware that if genocide were connected with other crimes, then it would be necessary, in order to make it punishable, to prove **first** the existence of the crime of genocide, **second** the existence of another crime, and **third** to establish a link between the two crimes, which is a very involved procedure. For that reason the Genocide Convention (Pact) was singled out from other projects, such as the project of a "code of offenses against peace and security of mankind," which deals with highly political crimes, such as aggressive warfare or revolution or civil war. An expression of the non-political but rather humanitarian approach to this problem is found in Article VII (see p. 24), which qualifies genocide as a non-political crime.

From the point of view of the experience of the Serbian people, it is highly important to make clear that the destruction of a national, racial or religious group constitutes the crime of genocide regardless of whether it was committed in conditions of war or in conditions of peace.

**ARTICLE II.** In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group as such:

- (a) Killing members of the group;
- (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

The Genocide Convention deals with national, racial, religious and ethnic groups, that is all inhabitants of a country belonging to the same nationality, religion or race. Destruction in part is also of the greatest importance because when persons who provide the forces of cohesion in a nation are destroyed, such as the professional groups and spiritual leaders, then the entire group suffers considerably.

The motivations on the side of the offenders are of no importance. To destroy the above mentioned groups for political, economic or other reasons is genocide.

Motivation must be distinguished from intent. The intent to destroy the group is basic for the concept of genocide. Killing people or inflicting upon them serious mental or physical harm will not be genocide unless it can be proved that these acts were undertaken with the intent to destroy the group.

The above provisions find full application to the genocide perpetrated by the fascist Croatian Ustashi on the Serbian people. The leaders did not conceal their intent to destroy the Serbian national group.

Dr. Mile Budak, Member of the Cabinet of Ante Pavelich, stated publicly: "One part of the Serbs we shall kill, another we shall deport . . ." On May 28, 1941, the head of the Ustashi at Banja Luka, Dr. Viktor Gutich, referring to his conference with the head of the state, Ante Pavelich, stated that: ". . . In the shortest time possible there will be no trace left of the Serbs, and the only thing that will remain of them, will be a bad memory . . . Tomorrow I will begin to tighten up. Spines will be broken . . . There will be no mercy . . ."

## TECHNIQUES OF GENOCIDE

### Killings

The massacres were carried out in various ways: by invading villages and towns and killing people in their homes, or after assembling them in schools, town halls or horse stables. When the Ustashi considered the rate of destroying the Serbs too slow, they would resort to the ruse of assembling them at the market places

under the false pretense that a government announcement would be made. As soon as the unsuspecting people of the cities and villages arrived, they were all massacred with knives and butts of guns. Sometimes they were assembled in churches and either killed in the church or the church was set afire and people burned alive in them. The massacres carried out in the Serbian Orthodox Church in Glina between May and August, 1941 belong undoubtedly to the darkest chapters of human depravity in modern times.

Babies were torn from their mothers' arms, and while they were held by their feet, they were swung forcibly against walls, smashing their heads before their mothers' eyes. Entire towns and villages

were emptied by these killings. Serbs were machine-gunned as they stood before graves they had been forced to dig for themselves. Many were buried alive, while others were cast into deep pits and bombs thrown upon them. Wounded and mutilated people were thrown in rivers. In July, 1941, there was such a vast number of corpses floating in the River Neretva (about 15,000 or more) that even small boats could hardly make their way through the massed bodies.

Killings were preceded by torture in all cases where the Ustashi had enough time to play with their victims. They would often skin the victim and then hang him. Also after killing a person, they would take out his heart. In many cases fingernails were torn out. A favorite pastime of the Ustashi was to throw children into boiling water. Often victims were stripped naked and pushed alive into icy water through holes especially dug in the frozen rivers. In the village of Velika Barna, District Grubisno Polje, the entire Serb population was, in May, 1941, driven into swamps and compelled to stand in water for several days. Most of them contracted pneumonia and died.

It was a common practice to load rafts with bodies of slain Serbs and send them floating down the Sava River with the inscription "Destination Belgrade" or "Meat for the Market in Belgrade." Cases are known where rafts were loaded with the heads of children chopped off from their bodies. Among them would be the head of a woman, the mother of the children.

In several cases groups of women who had been stripped naked were tied together by a wire pierced through their breasts. Then both ends of the wire would be joined, and the women forced to form a circle. A stack of hay was put in the center of the circle and set afire so that the women would burn to death.

### Mutilations.

The mutilations defy all imagination.

Limbs were cut open, salt put inside the wounds and then the limbs were tied together and bandaged. Tongues were torn out, ears, noses and genitals cut off.

Sometimes the naked victim was forced to roll on the ground covered with broken glass, so that he would bleed profusely from the cuts thus received. During such performances the victim was lashed and whipped constantly. Some men were tortured by having hair pulled from their beards. Others were stripped naked and fires were built on their chests.

Eyes were gouged from living men. Some of these eyes were sent to Zagreb to Ante Pavelich on whose desk the famous Italian writer Curzio Malaparte saw them in a basket. Malaparte mistook the eyes for oysters, but Pavelich explained to him that it was forty pounds of human eyes, a gift from his faithful Ustashi.

Cases are known where Croatian Ustashi would proudly wear necklaces of human eyes and tongues cut from their Serbian victims.

### Causing serious mental harm.

Victims were exposed to such tortures and agony that they lost their minds. Children were killed before the eyes of their mothers. Daughters and wives were raped in the presence of their families. At Nevesinje, a whole Serbian family consisting of father, mother and four children, was arrested. The mother and children were separated from the father. For seven days the mother and children were tortured by starvation and thirst, whereupon they were brought a good sized roast and water to drink. These unfortunates were so hungry that they ate the entire roast. Then the Ustashi told them that they had eaten the flesh of their father.

#### **Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group.**

The breaking up of the continuity of the Serbian nation and stopping procreation was carried out in the following ways: sexual organs of women were mutilated by introducing pieces of red-hot iron into them, or by applying electrical current. Organs of living men were cut off.

Compulsory abortions were organized by forcing pregnant women to line up against walls and announcing that they would be shot to death, while guns were actually pointed at them. But fire was opened above their heads. Miscarriages would follow as a consequence of shock and anguish.

#### **Forcibly transferring children to another group.**

A nation can be destroyed in whole or in part when its children are forcibly taken away, because such acts affect the continuity of the nation.

In cases where Serbian children were not destroyed directly, they were forcibly removed by the Ustashi from their homes and given to Croatian families for upbringing as Croats.

#### **ARTICLE III. The following acts shall be punishable:**

- (a) Genocide;**
- (b) Conspiracy to commit genocide;**
- (c) Direct and public incitement to commit genocide;**
- (d) Attempt to commit genocide;**
- (e) Complicity in genocide.**

The crime of genocide perpetrated on the Serbs<sup>4</sup> was neither a spontaneous phenomenon nor the result of a clash of armies at war. It was the execution of a previous conspiracy adopted as a program of the Ustashi political movement. In order to encourage genocide, bounties were paid for Serbian heads brought in by killers. Government officials and private individuals made public speeches inciting to genocide. In the late evening of April 9, 1941, a speech of Ante Pavelich proclaiming the "Ustashi revolution" was broadcast. It was followed by a fiery speech by Andrija Artukovich who instigated the Croats not only to kill the Serbian officers and soldiers, but even children in their mothers' wombs. The next day, a "Croatian government" was formed in which Artukovich was appointed Minister of Interior.

The conspiracy of genocide against the Serbs was preceded by the anti-Serbian movement organized in the second half of the nineteenth century by Ante Starcevic, who is the forerunner of Ante Pavelich and his accomplices. Starcevic, the founder of modern Croatian nationalism, saw in genocide the only way of getting rid of the Serbs who were living as a minority among the Croats. His famous saying that the Serbs are "a litter ripe for the axe" is just one of the many political battle cries with which his writings teem and is characteristic of his political philosophy.

#### **ARTICLE IV. Persons committing genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in Article III shall be punished, whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials or private individuals.**

The practical sense of the provision of Article IV is completely proved by the case of genocide in the "Independent State of Croatia." Genocide was committed there not only by the ruler and government officials, but also by private individuals. It should be

stressed that the case of genocide was fostered and nurtured by a political movement which was not confined by its nature to government officials. Members of the party and private individuals participated in this crime.

The most striking illustration of this can be found in the fact that in some cities high school students organized massacres in the same way as did peasants in villages, as well as other classes of private citizens.

In the course of the drafting of the Genocide Convention in the United Nations, the proponents of the Soviet point of view tried to limit the responsibility for genocide only to government officials. This Soviet device was exposed in hearings on the ratification of the Genocide Convention in the United States Senate on February 8, 1950, by the representative of the Lithuanian American Council, Mr. Constantin Jurgela, who said: "The Communist Party will be precluded from pleading non-guilty because they are not a government."<sup>5</sup> Indeed, for the treatment of the cases of genocide in the Soviet Union, the provisions of the responsibility of private individuals are of greatest importance. If responsibility were to be limited to members of governments, then a government would be able to escape responsibility by declaring that the perpetrators acted on their own. In the discussions of the United Nations Assembly in Paris pertaining to the Genocide Convention, it was stressed that the case of genocide which was committed in India on the Moslems in 1947, affecting more than one million people, was committed not by the government but by religious fanatics acting as private individuals.

#### **ARTICLE V. The Contracting Parties undertake to enact, in accordance with their respective Constitutions, the necessary legislation to give effect to the provisions of the present convention and, in particular, to provide effective penalties for persons guilty of genocide or any of the other acts, enumerated in Article III.**

This article says that the Convention requires implementation through domestic legislation of every nation concerned. The law-making body of every nation has to adopt legislation, and only through this type of legislation will the Convention operate upon the citizens of every country. Domestic legislation must be enacted in accordance with the constitution of every country. No country is required to do anything more than is permitted by its constitution. Article I, Section 8, Point 10, of the United States constitution says: "The Congress shall . . . define and punish piracies . . . and offenses against the law of nations." Genocide is a crime against the law of nations, and as such is clearly within the scope of the American Constitution.

Because of a misinterpretation of Article V of the Genocide Convention, some people have claimed that since in American law treaties are the supreme law of the land, the mere ratification of the Genocide Convention becomes automatically binding on American citizens. This is incorrect because the Genocide Convention as a treaty will become supreme law of the land with all its provisions, including Article V which requires domestic legislation. It is well established by decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court that a treaty provision which is made dependent on legislative action does not take effect as the law of the land until such action is taken. (See

**Foster v. Nielsen**, 2 Pet. 253, and **U.S. v. Percheman**, 7 Pet. 513.) This position was taken by the sub-committee of the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee which has recommended ratification, (see *infra*, page 29).

The requirement of implementing the Genocide Convention through domestic law is of paramount importance. It has great moral educational value. A society normally attaches more importance to its own national law than to international law. When the nations shall have introduced domestic legislation outlawing genocide, future generations, will gradually become imbued with a feeling that the very existence of minority groups must be safeguarded from extermination for the sake of a high moral principle and legal order in domestic society.

The students of the Croatian high schools who organized massacres of their Serbian neighbors in the same villages and towns might not have resorted to these crimes had they been brought up with the conviction that it is a crime to kill Serbs as it is a crime to kill Croats.

**ARTICLE VI. Persons charged with genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in Article III shall be tried by a competent tribunal of the State in the territory of which the act was committed, or by such international penal tribunal as may have jurisdiction with respect to those Contracting Parties which shall have accepted its jurisdiction.**

Under this Article persons charged with genocide have to be tried essentially by domestic courts where the rules and procedures of domestic law will prevail. It should, however, be stressed that Article VI establishes an international obligation to punish through domestic courts. Therefore, it cannot be claimed that the Convention is too weak because it allegedly leaves the matter of punishment for genocide to domestic courts. As a matter of fact non-punishment or toleration will be a violation of an international agreement.

Article VI provides also for the possibility of punishment by an international criminal tribunal. This provision, however, does not constitute an obligation but is a matter of choice for every government. It is a so-called optional clause because under constitutions of certain countries, citizens of one country cannot be tried by international courts. In the United States certain groups have expressed their opposition to American participation in an international criminal court, but this cannot hold up American ratification of the Genocide Convention. Article VI makes it clear, and this should be emphasized, that the Genocide Convention, as submitted, does not imply that the United States is obliged to deliver its citizens for eventual trial for genocide by an international criminal tribunal.

**ARTICLE VII. Genocide and the other acts enumerated in Article III shall not be considered as political crimes for the purpose of extradition. The Contracting Parties pledge themselves in such cases to grant extradition in accordance with their laws and treaties in force.**

This Article deprives men who sink to the level of sub-humanity of the possibility of claiming the privileged status of political of-

fenders who, in certain conditions, are entitled to asylum and even consideration. Certainly, a man who under great emotional strain and moral revolt against injustice and oppression kills a political opponent who is enjoying and ruthlessly wielding power, might be entitled to the privileges of a political offender. However, a man who butchers children with sadistic pleasure, or who inflicts appalling torture on innocent and defenseless people solely because they belong to a different national, racial or religious group is not entitled to such privileges. Moreover, granting him asylum would be in defiance of the international order and of the moral principles of every decent society.

**ARTICLE VIII. Any Contracting Party may call upon the competent organs of the United Nations to take such action under the Charter of the United Nations as they consider appropriate for the prevention and suppression of acts of genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in Article III.**

Under this Convention any case of genocide can be brought up before the organs of the United Nations. The forum is not limited to the Security Council where veto might prevent action. It can be brought up also in the Economic and Social Council or in the Assembly itself. Under the general rules and practice of the United Nations, a committee may be appointed to investigate charges of genocide either at the place of the commission of the crime or in any other place where documents and evidence may be presented. The General Assembly can recommend all steps necessary for the prevention and suppression of acts of genocide. The provisions on prevention are of the greatest consequence because it is much more important to save lives while it is still possible than to seek redress after lives have been lost and great damage done. One should not overlook the fact that the damage done in cases of genocide is essentially irreparable. A nation and its culture can hardly be recreated, and if they are partly destroyed it takes many years to restore the population numerically and to replenish the spiritual resources of the nation which has lost its writers, poets, artists, teachers, clergymen, scientists and other builders of its spiritual life.

**ARTICLE IX.\* Disputes between the Contracting Parties relating to the interpretation, application or fulfillment of the present Convention, including those relating to the responsibility of a State for genocide or any other acts enumerated in Article III, shall be submitted to the International Court of Justice at the request of any of the parties to the dispute.**

The International Court of Justice is already an existing institution. It deals with disputes among nations. It has no jurisdiction to try criminal cases of genocide. The International Court of Justice can only deliver advisory opinions which the United Nations might accept or reject. The controlling Article over implementation of the Convention is Article VIII, as explained above.

For these reasons the fact that several satellite nations have ratified the Genocide Convention with reservations to Article IX does not relieve them from responsibility under the Genocide Convention for acts of genocide.



## "Laws" of Croatia

Shortly after the so-called Independent State of Croatia was formed the stories about the crimes in this state spread through Yugoslavia and foreign countries. So horrifying were the atrocities committed by the Ustashi that the Nazis reporting to Hitler tried to convince Hitler to place authority in Nazi hands lest Ustashi bring complete chaos and thus curtail Nazi plans. However, there was not time to reorganize and the Ustashi were dependable allies, at least they would not work against the Germans.

Ustashi leaders were also busy masterminding all sorts of laws which would bring the speediest liquidation of all "parasites", "beasts" and "dogs" - Ustashi nomenclature for all Serbs, Jews and Gypsies in Croatia. These words were soon sounded by every speaker in Parliament, high officials, press, radio and church pulpits !

Among the first public notices posted in parks, public transportation vehicles, and restaurants were these:

**"All Serbs and Jews residing in Zagreb, the capital of Croatia, must leave town within 12 hours. Any citizen found to have given a Serb or Jew shelter will be immediately executed on the spot."**

**"He who cannot kill a Serb or Jew is an enemy of the State!"** declared Andrija Arturkovich, Himmler of Croatia.

The following public notice was issued to curb the many citizens repelled by the bloody murders:

**"In case of attack against the Ustashi, as a reprisal without any court procedure 10 persons to be chosen by the police, will be executed !"**

In the first months of the Independent State of Croatia, the following laws were passed:

**Protection of Aryan Blood and Honor of Croatian People** (No. 44-67-Z, April 30, 1941)

**Racial Origin** ((No. 45-68-Z, April 30, 1941)

**Nationalization of Jewish Property and Business** (No. CL-348-Z, June 1941)

**Protection of National and Aryan Cultures of Croatian People** (No. CXLVII-333-Z, June 4, 1941)

**Change of Jewish surname; Special Insignias designating Jews and Jewish Firms** (No. 336-z, June 4, 1941)

**Prevention of Hiding Jewish Property** (No. CII-447-z, June 5, 1941)

**Establishment of racial origin of State and Local officials and members of professions** (No. 342-Z, June 5, 1941)

**Nationalization of Jewish Property and Jewish Firms** (No. CCCXXXVI-1699-z, Oct., 1941)

**New regulation governing the legal establishment of Concentration Camps** (No. CCIX-1799-Z, 1941)

Ustashi received a number of letters suggesting some measures to be taken into consideration with regard to their "racial purity" laws. These letters came from the Archbishop of Zagreb (later Cardinal) Stepinac, who said that everyone in the world would find as **just** the measures passed by the Croatian State with regard to taking away the personal property of the Serbs and Jews and for taking measures against the harmful influences which they inflict and thus infect the national organism and that everyone would find it **just** that a ban was put on the accumulation of capital by anti-national (Serbs) and foreign (Jews) individuals and that these elements (Serbs and Jews) cannot determine the fate of the Ustashi state and he thought that at least five more measures would be considered:

1. That marriages existing between Aryans and non-Aryans and in general all marriages of those who are now Catholic, not be jeopardized.

2. That the education of the children of non-Aryans belonging to the Catholic Church be made possible.

3. That Christian non-Aryans, especially Catholics, be separated from the other non-Aryans of the Jewish religion.

4. That subordinate police officials be ordered in carrying out administrative measures, not to put Catholic non-Aryans in the same class with other non-Aryans.

5. That the Catholic non-Aryans be treated in a respectful manner especially if they conform their conduct and their work, and do not work against the interest of the Croatian people.

(Ref. No. 103 - Employment of women in non-Aryan household).



# What Would Americans Say?

## Double Standard of Justice

Let it not be said that the Archbishop of Zagreb did not advise and 'fight' for those whom he considered should be spared the fate of so many thousands slaughtered by the USTASHI. Shortly before the collapse of the USTASHI government, the Archbishop of Zagreb Stepinac said on April 2, 1945:

"May I, Poglavnik, draw your attention to the circumstances in the case of Velimir Jovanovic, who is considered the most guilty of the group condemned to death. As a former YUGOSLAV officer and a (SERB) Orthodox, HE MARRIED A CATHOLIC GIRL IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH and had his CHILD BAPTIZED IN THE CATHOLIC RELIGION.

"I ask you also to pardon Luka Mustapic, police commandant at Djakovo, sentenced to death by the court martial at Osijek. HE ALWAYS PROTECTED CROATIANS IN SERBIA, and in OUR OWN STATE ("Independent State of Croatia) HAS COLLABORATED WITH OUR (USTASHI) AUTHORITIES AND THOSE OF THE (NAZI) GERMANS.

Archbishop of Sarajevo, Dr. Ivan Saric, jubilant over USTASHI 'Independent State of Croatia,' expressed his happiness for the NAZIS and the USTASHI in NOVI LIST, November 19, 1942:

"Command yourselves to our beloved Lord with whose help we will gain the final victory together with our dear friends and allies (Nazis).

"Therefore, with faith in God and with devotion to our beloved leader, we must always be ready to die for our Poglavnik and for our USTASHKA CROATIAN FATHERLAND!"

## After Collapse of USTASHI

When in the mopping-up stages of NAZIS and USTASHI from the soil of Yugoslavia, after having remained so silent when countless innocent victims lost their lives, including new born infants, the Archbishop of Zagreb (Cardinal) Stepinac did a mental summersault and protested the shooting of USTASHI and NAZIS. He said on July 21, 1945:

"Every man with a sane mind and an honest heart knows that an accused person has the inalienable right of defending himself and of demanding in his defense the questioning of witnesses before any court that merits its name and which intends to exercise its functions in the name of justice. Without the questioning of witnesses, who personally participate in the most important part of the proceedings, namely the trial, there cannot be a just sentence."

## Youth Prepared to Accept Extermination of Jews as Noble Deed by Poglavnik

Croatian Catholic journals for children asked its young readers to pray for the 'glorious' Poglavnik Pavelic and explained the extermination of Jews. Below is an excerpt from GLASNIK SV. ANTE (St. Anthony's Herald) June, 1941, page 182:

"There are over 30,000 Jews in Croatia. In Zagreb there are 12,000 of them. In our poorer districts there are no Jews at all, as there they have no such opportunity to plunder. The Poglavnik has announced that the Jewish problem will be radically solved in our State."

**"The ferocious attitude of the Pavelich government toward minorities is disconcerting. Pavelich along with his local agents constantly declares that they will exterminate two million people. Day after day they write and proclaim they will wipe out all minorities."**

**Christian Science Monitor,  
December 1941**

## USTASA Oath Before Crucifix with Dagger and Revolver Alongside It

Although many, many complaints were received because oaths were administered before a crucifix with a dagger and a revolver alongside it, it wasn't until October 15, 1943 that the President of the Episcopal Conference informed the USTASHA military Vicar—the very Reverend Vilim Cecelja—that in the future it is forbidden to administer the oath in front of a crucifix with a dagger and revolver alongside it.

## Insanity

**"This State (Independent State of Croatia) is ONLY for Croatians and not for anyone else!**

**"ALL JEWS AND ORTHODOX SERBS WHO CAME 300 YEARS AGO MUST DISAPPEAR."**

(Minister of JUSTICE,  
Dr. Milovan Zanic, 1941)

**ARTUKOVIC GAVE THIS ORDER:**

**"DON'T COME TO ME UNLESS YOU HAVE KILLED 200 SERBS"**

## 'Prominent' Citizens of Zagreb

Top right: Minister of Interior ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC, one of his subordinates and the Mayor of Zagreb at the Railway station.

Bottom: 1942—At opening of USTASHI Catholic school for youth training: Poglavnik Pavelic, Archbishop of Zagreb, (Cardinal) Stepinac, Vatican Legate (Ecclesiastic representative of the Holy See) Ramiro Marcione and dowdy Madame Pavelic—with hat!





Front row, first seat: MINISTER OF INTERIOR, ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC together with USTASHI, POGLAVNIK PAVELIC fourth from right, HITLER'S NAZIS and MUSSOLINI FASCISTS. ZAGREB, Croatia.



First from left-Minister of Interior, ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC witnessing the decoration of MUSSOLINI'S envoy Casertano by Poglavnik Pavelic, May 16, 1942. Decoration: High Order of King Zvonimir—ARTUKOVIC also has this decoration as well as title of knight!

# "BOG I HRVATI" (God and the Croatians)

## "HAPPY BIRTHDAY, GLORIOUS CHIEF"

On every USTASHI anniversary of Poglavnik Pavelic's birthday, a special High Mass and Te Deum's were celebrated in all Croatian Catholic Churches.

On June 15th, 1942, even though thousands of innocent people had already been exterminated, the Archbishop of Zagreb (Cardinal) Stepinac called upon all of his clergy to sing a Te Deum for Pavelic. The letter began thusly:

"On June 15, 1942, the glorious chief of the Independent State of Croatia, our Poglavnik, Dr. Ante Pavelic, celebrates his birthday. On this occasion I appeal to the whole clergy to say on the following Sunday, June 17th, at the most convenient time, preferably after the High Mass, a Te Deum with the proper prayers. On this occasion an appeal should be made once more to the people to say humbly their prayers to God for the prosperity of the Independent State of Croatia, for our Poglavnik and for an early peace in the world, so that our native Croatia, too, might flourish more and more to the everlasting and eternal welfare of her sons."

## "MURDER IS MY SANCTITY"

Poglavnik Pavelic heard mass every day in a private Chapel. he was a devout Catholic, a devoted husband, and a loving father. The Croatian Catholic Church had nothing but praise for Dr. Pavelic, "a self-sacrificing fighter who prepared the way for the 'Independent State of Croatia' laboring twelve long years made possible by the dynamics of the New Order (Nazis and Fascists)." **DR. ANTE PAVELIC SENTENCED TO DEATH IN ABSENTIA IN FRANCE AND YUGOSLAVIA FOR HIS ROLE IN THE ASSASSINATION OF KING ALEXANDER AND LOUIS BARTHOLOMEW IN 1934!**

Top left: Archbishop of Zagreb, (Cardinal) Stepinac escorts Poglavnik Pavelic to Catholic church service.

Center: HIGH MASS and TE DEUM sung for Archbishop's 'Glorious chief'

Bottom: Special pew for Poglavnik Pavelic.



## WHY WEREN'T PRIESTS KNOWN TO BE USTASHI PUNISHED?

On November 30, 1945, the Provincial of Franciscans, P. Modesto Martincić was asked this question. He replied that *priests could not be punished merely for being members of*

*the USTASE because the USTASHA program emphasized its attachment to the Catholic Church and the Church could not condemn the USTASHA movement nor forbid priests to enter its ranks.*

Poglavnik Pavelic "ZA DOM SPREMNI!" USTASHI priests—Zagreb, 1941



Note: Largest exodus of priests and members of religious orders from any country were recorded in modern history as having fled from Yugoslavia under the protection of the retreating HITLER'S NAZIS. Many still sworn USTASHI are mingling among American immigrants continuing their gnawing, destructive work and disseminating unbelievable historical distortions.



Above: Provincial of Franciscans P. Modesto Martincić—Zagreb

Top page 45: PAVELIC with a large group of Young Catholic priests

Middle: Pavelic with Franciscans whom he deputized and who worked as USTASHI.

Bottom: Nuns decorated by Pavelic for their 'heroic' USTASHI deeds.

## CROATIAN CATHOLIC CLERGY ON DEFENSE OF THEIR USTASHI PRIESTS

"For several centuries the Croatians have hoped for an independent Croatian State. *IT SEEMED THAT THIS WAS FULFILLED BY PAVELIC* and the *ACTION OF THE USTASHI*.

"The acts of *VIOLENCE*, the *MURDERS*, and *SPILLING OF BLOOD* brought about by the *USTASHI* leaders and movement turned many of them away.

"However, we grant that there were Catholic priests who by their extreme nationalism *SINNED AGAINST CHRISTIAN JUSTICE* and *CHARITY* AND THEREFORE DESERVE TO ANSWER BEFORE THE COURT OF EARTHLY JUSTICE.

"*MANY OF THEM FLED THE COUNTRY (YUGOSLAVIA) ALONG WITH PAVELIC, ARTUKOVIC* and the *USTASHI* BECAUSE THEY SERVED AS MILITARY CHAPLAINS OF THE *USTASHI* AND THEY HEARD THAT THE PARTISANS WOULD KILL ALL THOSE WHO HAD COLLABORATED WITH THE *USTASHI*."

(At a meeting of the High Clergy in Zagreb, 1945 after the collapse of the USTASHKA "INDEPENDENT STATE OF CROATIA.")







Top: The Holy See's ecclesiastic legate, Ramiro Marcone and all the 'GOOD CROATIAN CATHOLIC USTASHI' attend POGLAVNIK'S birthday celebration at special church service.

Center right: Archbishop of Zagreb, (Cardinal) Stepinac has arrived at the reception of Poglavnik Pavelic. Left: Poglavnik Pavelic greets the Archbishop of Zagreb and thanks him for the Pastoral letter in which the Archbishop called upon all his clergy to say High Mass for the 'glorious Poglavnik'.

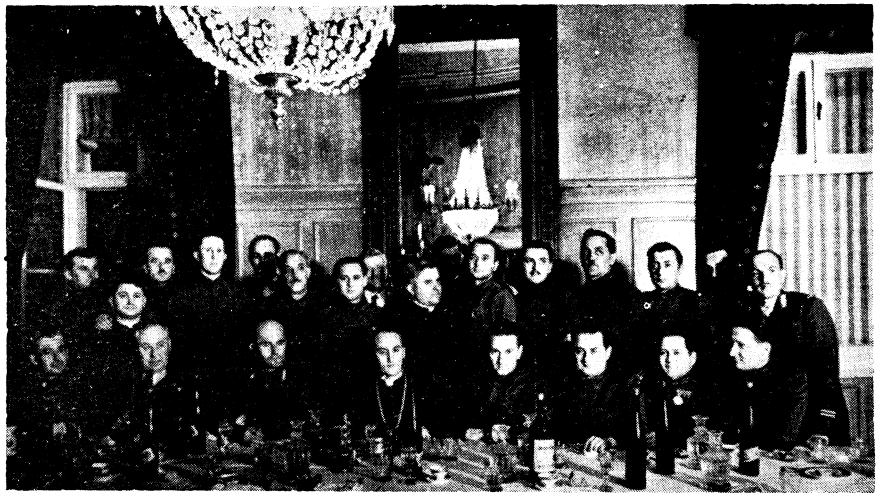


Bottom: The whole Catholic Episcopate with 'GLORIOUS POGLAVNIK' Pavelic





# STRANGE BED- FELLOWS "BOG I HRVATI"



Top: Archbishop of Zagreb, (Cardinal) Štepinac gives banquet for exiled USTASHI murderers upon their return to Yugoslavia with Hitler and Mussolini troops. Zagreb.

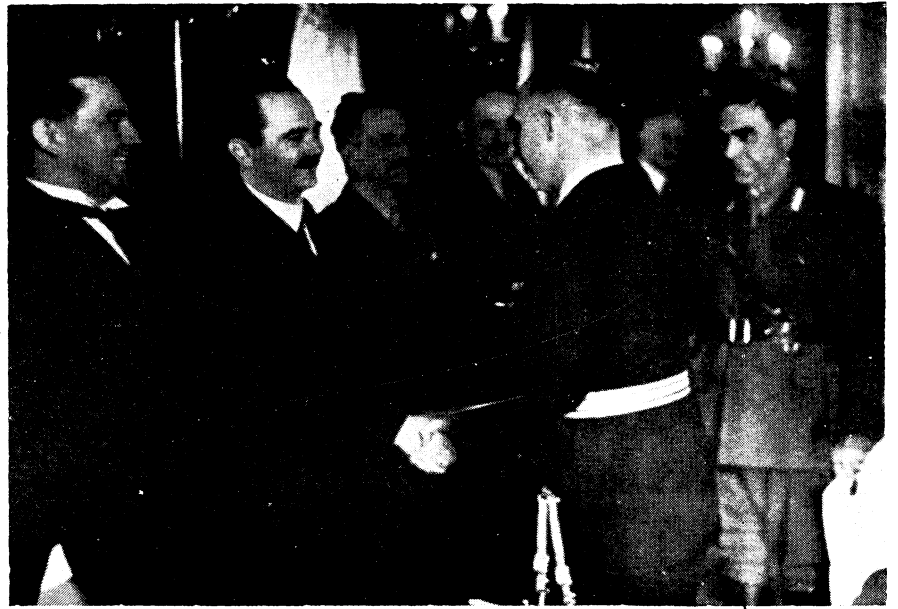


Left: Hotel Esplanade Zagreb: Papal Nuncio Ramiro Marione greets Japanese envoy—USTASHI ally during World War III.

Bottom: Hitler's Nazis, Mussolini Fascists, The Holy See's Papal Nuncio Marione, USTASHI, and the Archbishop of Zagreb, Dr. Štepinac at USTASHI opening of fair.



# "BOG I HRVATI"



Above: First from left: MINISTER OF INTERIOR, ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC, Second from left: MINISTER OF EDUCATION and CULTS, DR. MILE BUDAK extreme right; Poglavnik Pavelic.

Left: Devout Catholic Dr. Mile Budak Minister of Education and Cults said on July 22, 1941:

"The movement of the USTASHI is based on religion. For the minorities we have three million bullets. We shall kill one part of the Serbs. We shall transport another, and the rest of them will be forced to embrace the Roman Catholic religion, thus our NEW CROATIA will get rid of all Serbs in our midst in order to become ONE HUNDRED PER CENT CATHOLIC WITHIN TEN YEARS!"

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## What About Jews Who Married Gentiles in Croatia?

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When ARTUKOVIC'S "RACIAL PURITY" law was put into effect there were some rather 'startling' discoveries—JEWS WERE MARRIED TO GENTILES. Many of these people were married in the Catholic Church so therefore, someone had to raise a voice. The Archbishop of Zagreb finally spoke up. He said in 1943 (largest number of Jews already exterminated, April, 1941-Oct. 1942):

"I know that there are similar (mixed), marriages among the chief leaders of our Croatian State and these are protected. It is against logic

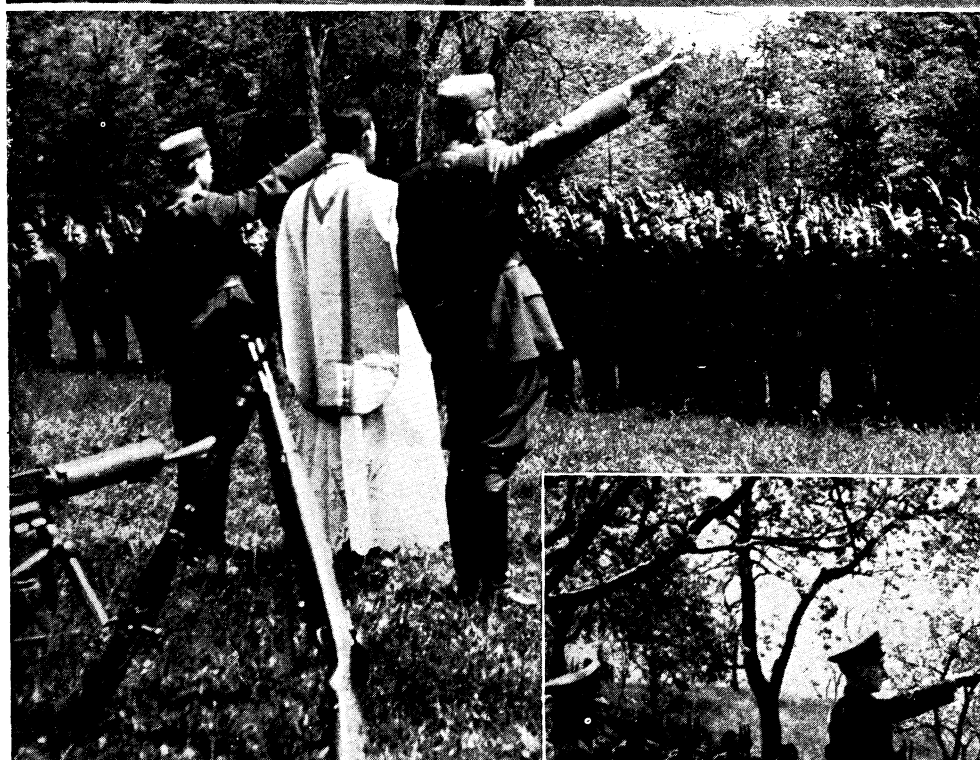
and against justice that these are . . . protected and others are not.

"If even dumb animals protect their young and will not let themselves be separated by force, who among you can believe that thousands of people in these mixed marriages will be able to watch passively as their families are destroyed by force?

"Is it not precisely because of such measures, so full of injustice, that our people are driven by force into the ranks of the Partisans? This is the case with many Croatians who can no longer tolerate the injustices.

"In Italy there are thousands of innocent Croatians from Gorski Kotar, Primorje, and Dalmatia (PAVELIC-ARTUKOVIC AND USTASHI in agreement with HITLER and MUS-SOLINI gave Mussolini this Yugoslav territory) living in concentration camps and when my delegation together with USTASHI representatives of our Croatian State sought to free these people, we were told by the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs:

**"Why do you interfere in our treatment of these people after the way you act in Croatia!"**



# WHO HAS RIGHT TO DECENT BURIAL? USTASHI!

When Croatia was liberated in 1945, the people tore down flags, insignias and all remnants of the USTASHI and NAZI reign of terror. Upon discovering the bodies of thousands of victims thrown in mass graves, ditches, ravines, bodies stuffed in wells, some headless, skeletons left in the fields, heaps of bodies washed ashore of the Sava and other rivers, the people became incensed with rage at the elaborate monuments erected with USTASHI and NAZI insignias lying peacefully in beautifully kept ceme-

teries. Many were torn down. Immediately a voice was heard. The Archbishop of Zagreb (Cardinal) Stepinac wrote in a pastoral letter dated September 21, 1945, as well as in a letter addressed to President Tito, protesting the stripping of USTASHI and NAZI graves. He said:

....*"In death all men cease to be enemies. The unwritten law of human decency, springing from Christian love, gives to all men the right of decent burial."*



## Never mind murder !

### Ustashi disappoint Bishop of Mostar

**HE COULD HAVE HAD MANY CATHOLICS!**

At one time it seemed that a large number of schismatics would be converted to the Catholic Church. *"However the USTASHI officials have abused their positions, with the result that a reign of terror has come to pass,"* said the Bishop of Mostar.

*"Men are captured like animals. They are slaughtered, murdered; living men are thrown off cliffs. The under-prefect in Mostar, Mr. Bajic, a Mohammedan, has stated with the authoritative voice of his position—he should keep silent and not utter such statements—that at Ljubinje, in a single day, 700 schismatics were thrown into their graves."*

***"From Mostar and from Capljina a train took 6 carloads of mothers, young girls, and children to the station at Sumaci. There they were made to get off the train, were led up to the mountains, and the mothers together with their children were thrown ALIVE off steep precipices. In the parish of Klepci 700 schismatics from the surrounding villages were murdered. Must I continue to enumerate?"***

*"If the Lord had given to the authorities more understanding to handle the conversions to Catholicism with skill and intelligence with fewer clashes, and at a more appropriate time, the number of Catholics would have grown at least 500,000 to 600,000."*

(Bishop of Mostar—November 7, 1941)



# "Bad" Jews Not People

To one who was in a position to voice protest on the basis of gross violation of the Fifth Commandment, not only by USTASHI but also by members of his religious order, the Archbishop of Zagreb (Cardinal) Stepinac was enrolled in a marathon of correspondence with the MINISTER OF INTERIOR ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIĆ on what constituted a GOOD JEW, A GUILTY JEW, and an INNOCENT JEW. As a matter of fact he studied very carefully ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIĆ'S "RACIAL PURITY" LAWS and found that some JEWS were ACTUALLY HUMAN BEINGS! He wrote to MINISTER OF INTERIOR ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIĆ explaining this amazing discovery:

"Mr. Minister, (ARTUKOVIĆ) on the occasion of the announced promulgation of the anti-Semitic law, I have the honor to draw your attention to the following fact:

"There are good Catholics of the Jewish race who have been converted to Catholicism. There are among them those who have excelled as good Croatian patriots. I think it necessary to take account of such converts in the promulgation of the laws."

The Archbishop even discovers that there are guilty Jews and innocent Jews, for in another letter to ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIĆ, Minister of Interior, he said:

"Mr. Minister, (ARTUKOVIĆ) I had the honor on April 23, of this year to address you with respect to Jews converted to Catholicism. The laws promulgated on April 30, however, took no notice at all of this Catholic affiliation. Daily there are appearances of more and more severe provisions which hit equally the guilty and the innocent. Today's newspapers carried the order that all Jews, without regard to age or sex or Catholic affiliation must wear the Jewish insignia.

"Already there are so many measures that those who know the real situation will say of us (USTASHI) Croats that not even in (Nazi) Germany were the racial laws applied with such vigor and speed!"

In another letter addressed on May 30, 1941, to the MINISTER OF INTERIOR ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIĆ, the Archbishop of Zagreb was concerned only for those who were converted. He wrote:

**"I wrote to you, Mr. Minister, on May 22, of this year, asking that you do something to protect THE JEWS CONVERTED TO CATHOLICISM FROM THE JEWISH RELIGION."**

Even though the largest number of Jews had already been exterminated and no protest was made, finally on March 7, 1942, the Archbishop of Zagreb Stepinac wrote a letter to MINISTER OF INTERIOR ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIĆ regarding the arrests of Jews. He said:

**"I take the liberty, MR. MINISTER, OF ASKING YOU TO PREVENT, THROUGH YOUR POWER, all unjust proceedings against citizens who individually can be accused of no wrong."**

**"I do not think that it can bring us any glory if it is said of us that we have solved the Jewish problem in the most radical way, that is to say, the CRUELEST. The solution of this question must provide only for the punishment of Jews who have committed crimes, but not for persecution of innocent people."**

But didn't the Archbishop of Zagreb know that the Minister of Interior considered all JEWS CRIMINALS SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY WERE JEWS AND EVEN ORDERED HIS USTASHI TO "KILL ALL JEWS AND SERBS"?

## NEVER MIND IF YOU ARE INNOCENT

Let it not be said, when thousands of innocent people had already been exterminated by burning alive, gas, shooting, butchering, etc., that there was NO voice 'fighting' for their right to—die! Late in November 2, 1942 the Archbishop of Zagreb Stepinac wrote to MINISTER OF INTERIOR ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIĆ in which he said:

**"Mr. Minister, I have twice asked the Poglavnik, personally, to make possible entrance to Jasenovac, Gradiska and Labor. Although we are certain that the dying have been asking for a priest so that they may prepare for death this has not been granted."**

**"Can the USTASHI movement count on divine blessing when it refuses to the dying what all civilized states have always granted them?"**

**"I address you, Mr. Minister, to ask you respectfully that you TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS WITH THE PROPER AUTHORITIES IN THE MINISTRY UNDER YOUR DIRECTION so that when the sick or dying ask for priests they can go there without interference."**

## "SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS..."

It seems as though the Archbishop of Zagreb again found time in 1942 (largest extermination of Jews from April, 1941 to October, 1942) to write to MINISTER OF INTERIOR ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIĆ and ask:

**"Mr. Minister, I ask you to grant to those persons (Jews) who are left in the community permission to work in an area designated for the Ustashi state activities."**





## Croatian Catholicism and the Double Standard

*Even with the knowledge that the greatest number of innocent people were slaughtered or interned in concentration camps from April, 1941 to October 1942 when ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC was MINISTER OF INTERIOR, no voice of protest was heard. BUT in MARCH (1943) the Archbishop of Zagreb suddenly felt that the USTASHI should protect the elementary right of man—the right to life. In his own version coming from Zagreb, Yugoslavia, March, 1943, the Archbishop said:*

**"I ask you again, as representative of the Catholic Church, to protect the most elementary right, the right to life of those among the subjects of the Independent State of Croatia who have become members of the Catholic Church during the time of the State's existence, whether they were "re-baptized" or whether they came into the Catholic Church from the Orthodox; and against whom no one can prove any personal crime against the interests of the Croatian people or State."**

### London Version for Western Consumption

*Four months later, in JULY, 1943 came the London version of the same paragraph: picked up from the Vatican radio stations (Serbo-Croatian language) for dissemination to the Western countries:*

**"The Archbishop of Zagreb said. 'Every people and every race on**

**earth have the RIGHT TO LIVE and to be TREATED IN A MANNER OF MEN. If God has given this right to men, no power in the world may take it from them; also has not the Catholic Church always condemned all injustice and violence committed in the name of social, racist, and nationalistic principles. NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO KILL ARBITRARILY ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY or in any way to harm any members of a race.'**

**"The most important prelate of Croatia has spoken out against the USTASHI authorities who imitate Nazi crimes. This expression NEEDS NO COMMENTARY."**

### Zagreb Version—1943

*After more than 80% of the Jews and Gypsies had been exterminated—between April, 1941 and October, 1942 when ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC was MINISTER OF INTERIOR, it suddenly occurred to the Archbishop of Zagreb to voice an opinion. However, when the same paragraph was transmitted for Western consumption there were some rather startling changes. In Zagreb in 1943 the Archbishop said:*

**"One cannot exterminate intellectuals from the face of the earth because it may be agreeable to the working class, as Bolshevism has taught and done.**

**"One cannot extinguish from the face of the earth Gypsies or Jews because one considers them**

**inferior races. If the racist theories, which have no foundation are to be applied without scruples, is there any security for any nation at all?**

**"The Catholic Church has the courage to defend our CROATIAN (USTASHI) NATIONAL RIGHTS and to hurl that defense before crowned heads.**

**"No one has the right to kill or harm in any way those who belong to another race or another nation for that can be done only by the legitimate authorities, if they had proved the crime of an individual and if the crime merits such punishment."**

### New York Version for Western Consumption

*In New York, and used throughout the United States, came this version transmitted from London, the Archbishop Stepinac supposedly said:*

**"No one has the right to destroy the intellectual class in order to aid the working class. Thus, neither Jews nor Gypsies may be persecuted for the sole reason that they are considered inferior races. If the so-called theories are imprudently applied, all security will disappear from the earth.**

**"Yes, we ask the USTASHI if they have any reply that would refute the Vatican and that would destroy the truth, preached by Christ, of the brotherhood of men and peoples."**

By this agreement (*sporazum*), Croatia enjoyed complete autonomous status under the name of the Banovina of Croatia. The ban, or governor, of Croatia had to be appointed by the crown after being proposed by the Croat Diet. While Croatia was granted full autonomy, the rest of Yugoslavia continued under the unitaristic and centralistic system. Dr. Maček joined the government as its vice president, and several members of the Croat Peasant Party were appointed to important posts in the central government. The agreement (*sporazum*) did not solve the problem of Serbo-Croat relations, however, and was particularly opposed by the Serbs as having been reached without participation of their political parties; also as having included several Serbian districts in autonomous Croatia.

The Cvetković-Maček regime continued until March 27, 1941, when the regency and the government were overthrown by a popular uprising of the Serbs in protest over the signing of the Tripartite Pact with Germany.

**World War II.**—In the beginning of World War II, Yugoslavia was spared involvement in the conflict, preserving a precarious neutrality for 20 months. But after his conquest of western Europe, Hitler turned toward the Balkans. By increasing diplomatic pressure, he forced Yugoslavia to sign the Tripartite Pact in Vienna on March 25, 1941, but promised not to ask for passage of Axis troops or war material through that country. This situation differed from that of Rumania, Bulgaria, and Hungary, who, after signing the pact, had to permit the presence of German troops on their soil. The Serbs, in a violent popular reaction, overthrew the regency and the government two days later, thus practically repudiating the Tripartite Pact. Hitler's reaction to what he considered a personal affront was swift; on April 6 he launched a powerful attack on Yugoslavia from three sides, preceded by a merciless bombardment of Belgrade. The Wehrmacht, far superior in mechanized armament, broke the organized resistance of the Yugoslav Army in 10 days. The king, Peter II (who had ascended the throne after the coup d'état of March 27, 1941), accompanied by the new government presided over by Gen. Dušan Simović, went into exile in London to continue to fight on the side of the Allies.

Yugoslavia was divided between the Axis and their satellites, Bulgaria and Hungary, which at the time created the "Independent State of Croatia" whose head (*poglavnik*) was Ante Pavelić, and which included more than 2,000,000 Serbs. Serbia was reduced practically to its pre-Balkan War frontiers, but without the attributes of an independent state. The occupation of Serbia was marked by acts of extreme cruelty on the part of the Germans; but even these were surpassed by the atrocities committed in Pavelić's Independent Croatia. The official policy of the Pavelić Ustaši, which was publicly announced in the Pavelić Ustaši parliament, was the extermination of the Serbs in Croatia. Those who escaped murder were either forcibly evicted from Croatia, or forced to embrace the Roman Catholic faith. The unofficial estimate made by the government in exile of Serbs killed by the Ustaši reached the appalling figure of 600,000 men, women, and children.

When Yugoslavia surrendered to Germany on April 16, 1941, many of the officers and men refused to accept the surrender order and several

in an evacuation. Any attempt to save Greece from complete occupation was abandoned. Conditions for an evacuation were worse than Dunkerque the year before. There, the RAF could at least support the ground troops in some strength; the British coast was nearby, and many boats were on hand for the evacuation. In Greece, a friendly shore was much farther away; practically no air cover was available; and shipping space was scarce. A delaying action was fought to permit the embarkation of the main forces. This action took place along a line roughly 30 miles long, centered on the historic Pass of Thermopylae.

On April 23, the Greek king and government left for Crete. It was officially requested that the British forces be withdrawn from the Greek mainland. This request was not a hostile act, but the logical consequence of the collapse of the country's defenses and a gesture of consent to British evacuation, which began on April 24 and was completed by May 1. Equipment was lost, but the number of rescued was higher than expected, roughly 45,000. British fighting casualties were estimated at 5,000 killed and wounded. About 8,000 were captured.

Once again there were no British soldiers on the European continent, and no other fighting force faced the Axis in Europe. Hitler, in a speech delivered on May 4, gave the Wehrmacht's casualties in the Balkans as only 5,428. In reality, the Wehrmacht probably lost more than 20,000 men, most of them in mass attacks against the sacrificed defenders of the Metaxas forts and in the last furious drive to prevent British evacuation.

**Balkan Aftermath.**—After the surrender of Yugoslav armies, the Germans declared that King Peter's regime and the Yugoslav state had ceased to exist, and the country was split up by the conquerors. German-sponsored leaders of the Croat separatist group *Ustashi* (The Awakening) proclaimed the creation of a new Croat State. Ante Pavelić was to be its temporary head, and Croat soldiers in the Yugoslav Army were urged to revolt. The Ustashi introduced a totalitarian regime based upon brutal terrorism. Vast pogroms decimated the Jewish population. The treatment of Serbs and Croats who opposed the terrorists was just as harsh. Within the first six months of its rule, the Pavelić regime accounted for 300,000 victims. A Croat delegation went to Rome to offer the crown of a revived Croatian monarchy to Aimone, duke of Spoleto, prince of the Royal Italian House of Savoy. The duke accepted the throne but never came to Croatia. The Ustashi ruled Croatia contrary to the will of more than 90 per cent of the population.

# THE Encyclopedia AMERICANA

COMPLETE IN  
THIRTY VOLUMES

VOLUME XXIX

WASPS - ZYMOTIC DISEASE

1829



1951

NEW YORK • CHICAGO

AMERICANA CORPORATION

# “Enemies” of the Croatian State



Bodies lined up for identification.







More  
Ustashi  
victims





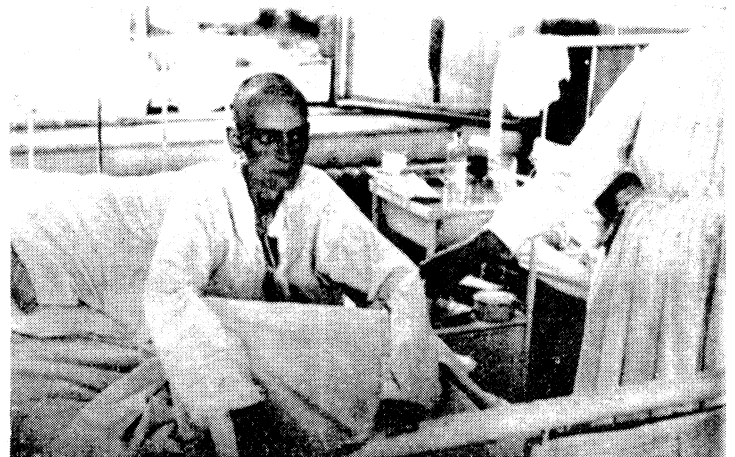
This poor peasant woman and her child did not live to tell their story...



Nor did these "notorious enemies" opposed to Andrija Artukovic and their USTASHI!



This peasant woman will be able to 'see' the murderers Artukovic and Pavelic. Their USTASHI gouged her eyes for the Poglavniks collection!



Artukovic didn't manage to kill everyone. A few "lucky" survivors from Jasenovac Concentration camp are shown here.



Champion USTASHI Cut-Throat V. Maks Luburic trained younger USTASHI how to become human butchers. With a specially made long bladed sharp knife, Luburic slashed an unbelievable number of throats at Jasenovac. ARTUKOVIC promoted him to the Champion Cut-Throat group—an elite distinguished group at Jasenovac made up of notorious murderers like Franciscan monk Miroslav Majstorovic-Filipovic (who boasted at his trial about the thousands he slaughtered), Father Zvonko Brekalo, Father Culina, Zvonko Lipovac, etc.

## How to Become a Human Butcher

Jose Oresković, age 19, entered the USTAŠI in Zagreb in 1941. He was captured in late 1942.

In his own words he related his gruesome story in a calm, matter-of-fact manner, his training, his reaction and his ultimate participation in human butchery.

“... They (ref. interned people in the concentration camp) slept under the bare sky. They were given only salty fish to eat but although water was put in sight, they were not given any. The camp commanders ordered us to separate 200 prisoners from the first group. We then took them to the sea (city of Pag) where they were slaughtered. Some of my comrades and I couldn’t stomach the slaughtering—we couldn’t do it. Then the commanders reprimanded us and upbraided us asking what kind of Croatians and USTAŠI were we? They said, ‘He who could not kill with joy a Jew, Serb, Gypsy or Communist, was not an USTAŠI.’ In order to win us over to do the killing, they gave us younger ones wine and liquor. They brought in girl prisoners, stripped them naked and told us to choose whichever one we wanted. However after our sexual intercourse with the girl we were to kill her. Some of the boys got drunk and got carried away—they were able to do it. I couldn’t. It revolted me and I said so openly.

“A few days later a high functionary, Luburić was his name,

came to the camp from Zagreb. He came to see the work at the camp. That’s when the real massacres began. Our men killed so many people that the whole sea around Pag was red with blood.

“Luburić was informed that I and some of the others had refused to kill. Luburić then called all of us USTAŠI together. We stood in formation. He made a speech in which he said that those who could not kill Serbs, Jews, Gypsies and Communists were traitors to the USTAŠI State. He then asked who of us could not kill? I answered, as did several others. Since my voice was the first to speak out, Luburić called me out of line and as I stood in front of the formation, Luburić asked, ‘What kind of an USTAŠI are you if you cannot kill a Serb or a Jew?’

“I told him that I was ready to give my life for the Leader (Poglavnik Pavelić) at any time, and that I would be able to kill an enemy in battle, but I just could not kill unarmed people, especially women and little children.

“He laughed so loud and said that this, too, was a battle, that *‘Serbs, Jews, Gypsies and Partisans were not people but wild beasts and that it was the duty of all USTAŠI to clear Croatia of this pestilence, and whosoever refused to assist is as much an enemy of the Leader and Croatia as they were.’*

“Luburić then called one of his men and whispered something. The man left the room. He returned with two small 2-year-old children. Luburić said they were Jewish children and he handed one over to me and told me to kill the baby. I answered I couldn’t do it. Whereupon all those around me burst into laughter and teased me. Then Luburić took out his knife and slit the throat of the child in front of me saying, ‘There, that’s the way to do it.’

“The sound of the child’s scream and the blood gushing out made me faint. I almost fell. One of the USTAŠI caught me. When I had somehow pulled myself together, Luburić ordered me to raise my right foot. I did so and he put the other child under my foot. Then he commanded, ‘smash.’ I did just that. I crushed the child’s head with my foot. Luburić patted me on the shoulder and said, ‘Bravo! you’ll make a good USTAŠA yet.’

“That is how I committed my first murder. After killing this first child I got dead drunk. While drunk some of us raped some Jewish girls and then killed them. Later I didn’t have to get drunk.

“Afterwards, when Slano was liquidated and all its prisoners killed, I was sent to the district of Korenica to clean out the Serbs. You know what my record is there...”

# WHO IS GENERAL DRINYANIN?

## "USTASHI FORBIDDEN TO JOIN FOREIGN ARMIES"

After Poglavnik Pavelic resurrected the USTASHI abroad in 1949 with his "Call to Blood" proclamation (issued in Buenos Aires, Argentina), "DANICA" the USTASHI newspaper published in Chicago, Illinois (U.S.A.), carried the following message calling on all USTASHI to "be patient for USTASHI will march again under a CROATIAN FLAG." The following is an order from "General Drinyanin" published in "DANICA," No. 13, August 9, 1950:

"Headquarters of the V. Assembly of Croatian armed forces, having jurisdiction over all subjects of the Croatian armed forces (Hr or Sn) living on the territory of the European states.

"It has been learned that some persons, unauthorized, are endeavoring to persuade individuals to enlist in foreign armies.

"By the order of the Supreme

Command of all Croatian armed forces, all subjects living in any European state be notified that no individual person is authorized, nor is permitted enlisting in foreign armies in any capacity, without a special authorized permit.

"The Supreme Command of all Croatian armed forces will call its forces to arm against bolshe-

vism when the time arrives, to fight side by side with other anti-Communist nations, under our own flag, and within our own Croatian army formations!"

Headquarters  
V. Assembly,  
General Drinyanin\*

(\*Vjekoslav Maks Luburic)

What kind of a man was V. MAKS LUBURIC? Dr. Vladko Macek—the man who preferred Hitler NAZIS to USTASHI—living as a house guest of the LUBURIC family in Zagreb during the bloody reign of terror in Croatia has this mild apologetic description of LUBURIC in his book entitled "In the Struggle for Freedom":

"His (Luburic's) mother was a quiet and pious woman, treated by her son with tenderness and respect. Notwithstanding this, she confided once with tears in her eyes to my wife: 'You see how my Vjeko is nice to me. But if only a small part of what people say about him is true, I wish I had never seen the day I gave him life'. Of course, MY WIFE DID NOT BURDEN HER WITH NEW INTELLIGENCE ABOUT HER SON'S CRIMES."

VJEKOSLAV MAKS LUBURIC ("GENERAL DRINYANIN") escaped with the Nazis and settled in MADRID, SPAIN, leading a 'respectable' life as publisher of the newspaper "DRINA." Collaborating with Luburic is the very esteemed ARCHBISHOP of SARAJEVO USTASHA DR. IVAN SARIC, now leading a 'respectable' life in Madrid and champion defender of USTASHA ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC.



# DRINA

VJESTNIK HRVATSKOG NARODNOG ODPORA

God II.

EUROPA, Veljača 1952.

Br. 1-2.

SREDISNJI HRVATSKI ODBOR

Za Medjunarodni Euharistijski Kongres u Barceloni



upućuje Hrvatima katolicima širom svijeta  
sljedeće okružno pismo Preuzvišenog  
gospodina Dra Ivana Ev. SARICA, sarajevskog  
Nadbiskupa i Metropolitte Vrhbosanskog:

HRVATI KATOLICI ŠIROM SVIETA!

## "DANICA"

"An American newspaper in the Croatian language—dedicated to the cultural enlightenment and spiritual uplifting of Americans of Croatian origin through the American way of life.

"In harmony with the American tradition of Freedom and Independence, the "DANICA" champions the right of the Croatian people to the re-establishment of their own National State."

(Rev. Castimir Majic,  
Editor—Chicago, Ill. U.S.A.)

## CROATIAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS WHO FLED YUGOSLAVIA

No church in history has ever witnessed or recorded such a large exodus of its priests as the Croatian Catholic Church in Yugoslavia.

Over 500 Croatian Catholic priests and members of religious orders, fled with the USTASHI under the protection of the retreating NAZI army.

Almost a hundred of these priests reached the United States immediately with many more arriving later. They mingle mainly with the Americans of Croatian descent. From the first infiltration some of the most vicious lies and distortions of historical fact have been disseminated not only in the foreign language press but also American press, radio and television. They are still trying to convince the American people that 'INNOCENT CROATIAN SOLDIERS' were killed in 1945, when in the mopping up stages many USTASHI SOLDIERS were turned over as the enemy of the people of Yugoslavia.

It did not take them long to set up headquarters for the USTASHI "movement" in the United States. Finding a nucleus of sympathetic and misinformed Americans they settled in Chicago, Ill. Working under the guise of 'religion' they continue to operate through their newspapers and publications, the two main ones listed below:

An American newspaper in the Croatian language—dedicated to the cultural enlightenment and spiritual uplifting of Americans of Croatian origin, through the American way of life.

# DANICA

THE MORNING STAR

In harmony with the American tradition of Freedom and Independence, the DANICA champions the right of the Croatian people to the re-establishment of their own National State.

NAJSTARIJI HRVATSKI NEZAVISNI LIST U AMERICI — THE OLDEST INDEPENDENT CROATIAN NEWSPAPER IN THE U.S.A.

COD. XXXVIII.
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, SRIJEDA, SRIJEDA, 14. SVIBNJA 1958.
BROJ 20.

4851 Drexel Blvd., Chicago, Ill. USA

ALL FOR GOD  
AND THE  
PEOPLE

# NASA NADA

"OUR HOPE"

SVE ZA  
BOGA  
I NAROD!

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CROATIAN CATHOLIC UNION OF THE U.S.A.      SLUŽBENO GLASILO HRVATSKE KATOLICKE ZAJEDNICE U S. D. AMERIKE

The only Croatian Catholic weekly (except every 5th Wednesday in any month) in the U.S.A.      Jedini hrvatski katolički tjednik (osim pete srijede u mjesecu) u Americi

BROJ 17.
CHICAGO, ILL. — GARY, IND.    SVIBANJ (MAY) 7, 1958.
CODINA (VOL.) XXXVII

In every single issue messages from and to the USTASHI throughout the world are printed. With "movements" active in Germany, Spain, Italy, Canada, Austria, etc., with their **POGLAVNIK PAVELIC** living down in Buenos Aires, Argentina, they are still convinced that the USTASHI abroad will succeed in overthrowing the government of Yugoslavia and will then march in and set up another "HRVATSKA" (CROATIA).

They have become the real spokesmen for the USTASHI "movement," for who in America would doubt the veracity of a priest? They have taken up the fight for all USTASHI DEAD OR ALIVE and even published an appeal for fund raising—monies to be sent directly to 'LEADER ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC,' B-62 Surfside Colony, Surfside, California (DANICA No. 19, May 7, 1958.)

What would ANY AMERICAN do if suddenly while listening to a sermon in church the priest from the pulpit yelled: "GO HOME AND KILL YOUR NEIGHBOR BECAUSE HE IS A JEW, PROTESTANT, ORTHODOX, ETC."? TODAY, IN YUGOSLAVIA THERE IS A LAW FORBIDDLING ANY MEMBER OF THE CROATIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OR ANY CHURCH TO YELL "KILL" FROM THE PULPIT OR INCITE HATRED AGAINST HIS BROTHER SLAV—just like the law in the United States or in England. And these escaped USTASHI in the U.S. yell 'religious persecution!'



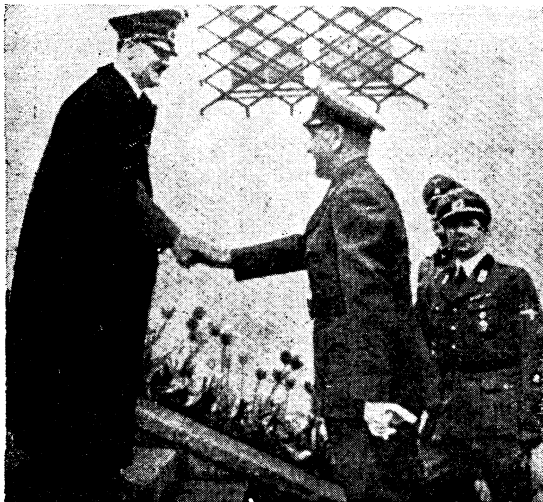
**HITLER? No, PROTEGE-POGLAVNIK ANTE  
PAVELIC ALIAS *DAL ARANYOS*  
ARGENTINA BOUND.**

**"HITLER IS ALIVE"**

When this rumor spread around the world—"Hitler escaped and is living in Argentina"—all USTASHI knew their POGLAVNIK was safe. For it was ANTE PAVELIC who sailed on the Italian liner S.S. Sestriere for safety in Buenos Aires, Argentina, arriving on November 6, 1948.

**WHY?**

PAVELIC had been captured by the U.S. Army near Salzburg and while preparations for his official trial were under way a "mysterious intervention" rendered him immune and he was released unconditionally. Disguised as a monk using aliases, Father Benares and Father Gomez, Pavelic continued activities with his USTASHI as he does today from his ARGENTINE headquarters.



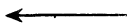
The Archbishop of Zagreb (Cardinal) Stepinac sang praise to the glorious' USTASHI leaders on November. 27, 1941. He said:

"It is not drunkards, nor murderers, nor thieves, susurpers, fornicators, nor card players who form the firm foundation of our (USTASHI) Fatherland, but hard-working, sober, honest, and conscientious men!"

**HOW HONEST IS HONEST?**

When Pavelic escaped he did not neglect to steal the valuable stamp collection valued over a million dinars from the safe of the Provincial Bank of Sarajevo belonging to Josip Ungar, a Jew whom USTASHI killed at Jasenovac, November, 1944.

Hitler greets  
Pavelic



Pavelic  
with  
Mussolini



Archbishop of Sarajevo, Dr. Ivan Saric, champion defender of Andrija Artukovic said of his 'glorious' POGLAVNIK:

"Like a giant you elevated yourself against all traitors."

# "ONCE AN USTASHA—USTASHA UNTIL DEATH"



**USTASHI MURDERERS RAISE THREE FINGERS - SYMBOL OF "CROATIAN AND CATHOLIC" - AS THEY ARE SWORN TO LOYALTY. IN FRONT OF CRUCIFIX AND CANDLES "BOG I HRVATI" (GOD AND THE CROATIANS)**



# JASENOVAC

## USTASHI'S MOST HORRIBLE TORTURE CHAMBER

After the biggest slaughter had already taken place and word was reaching the Allied peoples about the unbelievable atrocities, particularly **Jasenovac**, the brickyard converted into a death chamber where special kilns and ovens were constructed for burning bodies alive, Ustashi leaders ordered the gruesome extermination of all aged, men, women and children and sick people either by gas, killing with mallets, knives, poison caustic soda mixed with food, and burning alive so that they "prove" to all of the people "who were spreading lies a broad" that their concentration camps were merely "labor" camps. They even went further; they passed a bill legalizing these camps - CCIX-1779-ZZ, 1942.

In the short nightmarish three and a half years of the Ustashi reign of terror, and out of a total population of 5 million in the territory under Ustashi control close to 1,000,000 people lost their lives - more than in any country occupied by the Nazi armies !

Jasenovac brickyard converted by Artukovic into horror chamber, where most heinous crimes recorded in history were committed.



"Among the anti-Jewish measures already put into effect is a decree prohibiting them from entering coffee houses, restaurants and hotels.

"In addition, a score of shops in Zagreb posted signs saying Jews were not allowed here.

"On the morning of April 29, 1941, all the Jewish lawyers were arrested and taken away."

Associated Press, Zagreb, May 2, 1941

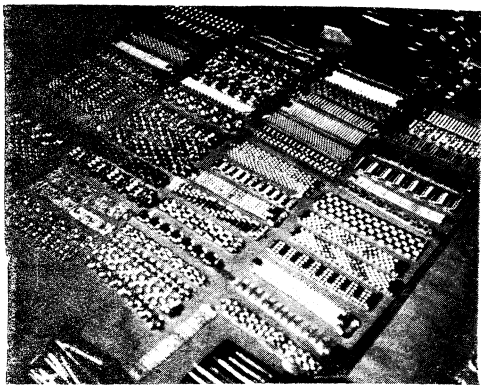
Dr. Macek, who shared living quarters with Ustashi on the second floor of Jasenovac concentration camp, said in his book **In the Struggle for Freedom**:

"...The windows in my room were covered with an opaque, dark blue paper to prevent me from seeing what was happening outside and, even more, to prevent my being seen by the prisoners below. This precaution did not, however, prevent me from being aware of the daily tragedies of the camp. The screams and wails of despair and extreme suffering, the tortured outcries of the victims, broken by intermittent shooting, accompanied all my waking hours and followed me into my sleep at night."



Before inspection from West, Artukovic ordered the burning of people **ALIVE** at **J a s e n o v a c**. Charred bodies discarded in **J a s e n o v a c** yard to make room for burning more people in special built ovens.





## ROBBERY AT JASENOVAC

Top: "Loot" designated as  
STATE PROPERTY

Right: USTASHI rob internees, check  
"loot" for State — "THOU SHALT  
NOT STEAL" punishable by death!

Bottom: Property designated as "di-  
visible" shared by CROATIAN  
USTASHI and NAZI VOLKS-  
DEUTSCHERS (Croatian Germans).





**INNOCENT VICTIMS  
OF GENOCIDE  
IN THE INDEPENDENT  
STATE OF CROATIA**





**"FINAL SOLUTION"  
OF THE SERBIAN  
PROBLEM IN CROATIA**



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